

Membership Request – Council on Linkages

Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)

December 1, 2015

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) is an independent agency recognized by the US Department of Education to accredit schools and programs in public health at the baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels. These schools and programs prepare students for entry into careers in public health.

National Scope

CEPH currently accredits 167 schools and programs in 46 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia in addition to accrediting schools and programs in Canada, Mexico, Lebanon and Grenada. The organization is growing rapidly, with 56 additional schools and programs in the application process.

Unique Function

CEPH is the only accrediting agency in the United States for public health degree programs in universities, and thus, is not currently represented on the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice (Council on Linkages). CEPH establishes the criteria by which education in public health is evaluated and we do this by ensuring that views from both academic partners and practitioner and employer partners are represented in discussions. On-site evaluations of public health schools and programs are conducted by both faculty and public health practitioners and our Board of Directors is also populated by both academicians and practitioners. While we have relationships with many of the Council on Linkages member organizations (in particular, the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health and American Public Health Association), our function is unique.

Consistent Mission

CEPH's mission, vision, goals and objectives and values are as follow and are consistent with the mission of the Council on Linkages.

CEPH assures quality in public health education and training to achieve excellence in practice, research and service, through collaboration with organizational and community partners.

Vision

Leading and fostering innovation in quality improvement.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of CEPH is “to enhance health in human populations through organized community effort.” CEPH's focus is the improvement of health through the assurance of professional personnel who are able to identify, prevent and solve community health problems. CEPH's objectives are:

1. to promote quality in public health education through a continuing process of self-evaluation by the schools and programs that seek accreditation;
2. to assure the public that institutions offering graduate instruction in public health have been evaluated and judged to meet standards essential for the conduct of such educational programs; and
3. to encourage – through periodic review, consultation, research, publications, and other means – improvements in the quality of education for public health.

Values

CEPH protects the interests of students and the public by supporting the development of successful public health schools and programs. We value the following:

- Quality and innovation in process and outcomes;
- Consistency, fairness and transparency; and
- Collaboration and inclusion to support positive environments in our own organization and in those we accredit.

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