

## **2.0 Instructional Program**

**2.1 Degree Offerings.** The program shall offer instructional programs reflecting its stated mission and goals, leading to the Master of Public Health (MPH) or equivalent professional master's degree. The program may offer a generalist MPH degree and/or an MPH with areas of specialization. The program, depending on how it defines the unit of accreditation, may offer other degrees, if consistent with its mission and resources.

***Interpretation.** The program shall offer the Master of Public Health (MPH), the primary professional public health degree. Other master's degrees (eg, MHS, MSPH, MS in industrial hygiene) also designate preparation for professional practice in a community setting and are considered to be equivalent professional master's degrees. All equivalent professional master's degrees are expected to meet the same curricular requirements as the MPH. A program may offer other degrees as well, including bachelor's and doctoral degrees, if these are consistent with its stated mission and if it has the additional resources needed to do so.*

*A degree program, sometimes referred to as a program of study, course of study or curriculum, is a series of planned and evaluated learning experiences that constitute the total requirements for the award of a degree. The program of study for each concentration, specialization or track within each degree, and for tracks designated as "generalist," shall provide sufficient depth of training in the designated area through required coursework and other experiences.*

*CEPH categorizes graduate degree programs as professional or academic. A professional degree is one that, based on its learning objectives and types of positions its graduates pursue, prepares students with a broad mastery of the subject matter and methods necessary in a field of practice; it typically requires students to develop the capacity to organize, analyze, interpret and communicate knowledge in an applied manner. A research or academic degree program is one that, based on its learning objectives and the paths its graduates follow, prepares students for scholarly careers, particularly in academia and other research settings; it typically prepares students to investigate, acquire, organize, analyze and disseminate new knowledge in a discipline or field of study.*

*CEPH does not categorize baccalaureate public health degrees as academic or professional; all baccalaureate public health degrees included in the unit of accreditation are subject to the same minimum requirements as defined in Criterion 2.8. Public health bachelor's degrees may include BSPH degrees and bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees in environmental health, health education and other public health fields.*

*A public health program may offer a course of study to provide the student with a sound academic background in order to practice competently as a generalist in public health or may offer one or more courses of study in selected areas of specialization and include those offered in a format other than regular on-site course sessions (e.g. distance learning, executive) must be presented for accreditation review. Additional degrees, such as bachelor's or doctoral degrees, may be reviewed for accreditation if defined by the program as part of the unit.*

**Required Documentation.** The self-study document should include the following:

- a. An instructional matrix presenting all of the program's degree programs and areas of specialization, including bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, as appropriate. If multiple

areas of specialization are available, these should be included. The matrix should distinguish between professional and academic degrees for all graduate degrees offered and should identify any programs that are offered in distance learning or other formulas. Non-degree programs, such as certificates or continuing education , should not be included in the matrix. See CEPH Data Template 2.1.1.

- b. The bulletin or other official publication, which describes all degree programs listed in the instructional matrix, including a list of required courses and their course descriptions. The bulletin or other official publication may be online, with appropriate links noted.
- c. Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met and an analysis of the program's strengths weaknesses and plans relating to this criterion.