

# New Proposal

Date Submitted: 09/27/19 8:49 am

Viewing: : **Epidemiology, MPH**

Last edit: 10/10/19 9:13 am

Changes proposed by: Justine Kaplan

## In Workflow

1. **U Program Review**
2. **1581 Committee Chair**
3. **1581 Head**
4. **KY Committee Chair**
5. **KY Dean**
6. **University Librarian**
7. **Grad\_College**
8. **Provost**
9. **Senate EPC**
10. Senate
11. U Senate Conf
12. Board of Trustees
13. IBHE
14. DMI

## Approval Path

1. 09/27/19 10:06 am  
Deb Forgacs (dforgacs):  
Approved for U Program Review
2. 09/27/19 10:48 am  
Kristi Carlson (carlso1):  
Approved for 1581 Committee Chair
3. 09/27/19 2:31 pm  
Kim Graber (kgraber):  
Approved for 1581 Head
4. 09/29/19 5:02 pm  
Reggie Alston (alston): Approved

- for KY Committee  
Chair
5. 09/29/19 5:03 pm  
Reggie Alston  
(alston): Approved  
for KY Dean
  6. 09/29/19 8:02 pm  
John Wilkin  
(jpwilkin):  
Approved for  
University  
Librarian
  7. 10/09/19 4:27 pm  
Allison McKinney  
(agrindly):  
Approved for  
Grad\_College
  8. 10/10/19 8:28 am  
Kathy Martensen  
(kmartens):  
Approved for  
Provost

## Proposal Type

Proposal Type:

Major (ex. Special Education)

Proposal Title

Establish a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology Major

Is this program available on campus and online? No

Official Program Name Epidemiology, MPH

Banner/Codebook Name

Corresponding Degree MPH Master of Public Health

Program Code:

Major Code	Minor Code	Conc Code
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Degree Code

EP Control Number EP.20.25

Senate Approval Date

Senate Conference Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

Effective Date:

Effective Catalog Term Fall 2020

Sponsor College Applied Health Sciences

Sponsor Department Kinesiology and Community Health

Sponsor Name Justine Kaplan Sponsor Email  
justinek@illinois.edu

College Contact Reggie Alston College Contact Email  
alston@illinois.edu

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

Academic Level Graduate

Will you admit to the concentration directly? Yes

Is a concentration required for graduation? Yes

## Program Description and Justification

Provide a **brief** description and justification of the program, including highlights of the program objectives, and the careers, occupations, or further educational opportunities for which the program will prepare graduates, when appropriate.

We propose to deliver a professional, nationally accredited Master of Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology major. The goal is to educate students in the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for current epidemiology practice. This program builds on the success of the existing nationally accredited MPH Program, currently focused on Health Behavior & Promotion. Adding epidemiology, which is a highly quantitative area of public health, brings additional depth and breadth to the MPH Program's offerings. Desired impacts of the new MPH in Epidemiology include attracting and enrolling new students in this self-supporting program, offering courses in topics that will serve the broader campus, and strengthening research in the areas of chronic disease, health disparities, and the social determinants of health.

Epidemiology has been a strength of our program for the past ~ 10 years, with a cohort of epidemiologists on faculty. In addition to the epidemiologists in our department, our faculty collaborate with epidemiology faculty in the school of Veterinary Medicine, the Department of Pathobiology (within the veterinary school), and the Department of Nutrition. Possible collaboration opportunities also exist with the campus' School of Information Sciences and the GIS program within the Geography Department, with potential for further research and student community service projects.

We regularly receive inquiries from potential applicants about wanting to study epidemiology here. In the past we have turned them down and referred them elsewhere, but we hope to instead be able to educate and support these students beginning next year.

The plan of study for the MPH in Epidemiology was developed based on best practices in epidemiology education, new trends, and accreditation requirements. MPH students will graduate in 1.5-2 years (three-four semesters). Students in the BS-MPH joint degree program, who come from the CHLH, IHLT, or KIN undergraduate program on campus, are able to complete an accelerated program to earn both their BS degree and MPH in Epidemiology in 5.5 years.

The Plan of Study for the MPH in Epidemiology is shown below.

MPH Core Courses:

CHLH 410: Public Health Practice

CHLH 469: Environmental Health

CHLH 550: Health Policy

CHLH 572: Principles of Epidemiology

CHLH 573: Biostatistics

CHLH 581: Public Health Professionalism Seminar (two semesters)\*

CHLH 587: Applied Practice Experience

CHLH 589: Integrative Learning Experience

Epidemiology Focus Courses:

CHLH 568: Computer Packages for Health Research~

CHLH 576: Analytical Epidemiology~

CHLH 578: Applied Epidemiology  
CHLH 582: Advanced Biostatistics~

Electives:

Elective #1

Elective #2

\* Currently CHLH 594- Special Topics, going through the Educational Policy review process concurrently with this proposal.

~ New course, going through the Educational Policy review process concurrently with this proposal.

Is This a Teacher Certification Program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

Yes

Describe the plans for seeking specialized accreditation:

The MPH in Epidemiology will seek accreditation (as did the current MPH degree) through CEPH, the Council on Education for Public Health. To earn accreditation, the program will conduct significant assessment and evaluation, follow governance procedures, and adhere to strict requirements in meeting 30+ specific curriculum competencies deemed by CEPH to be central to providing excellent quality education to students.

## Institutional Context

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Describe the historical and university context of the program's development. Include a short summary of any existing program(s) upon which this program will be built.

Explain the nature and degree of overlap with existing programs and, if such overlap exists, document consultation with the impacted program's home department(s).

The MPH Program was created in 2011 with five students enrolled and has grown since its inception to the most recently incoming class in Fall 2019 with 20 new students. The MPH Program gained national accreditation from CEPH, the Council on Education for Public Health, in 2013. The program was recently re-accredited in 2018, with accreditation lasting through 2025 before the next re-accreditation process begins. CEPH is the national standard for accrediting public health programs, so this is a high honor. To earn accreditation, the program conducts significant assessment and evaluation, follows governance procedures, and follows strict requirements in meeting 30+ specific curriculum competencies deemed by CEPH to be central to providing excellent quality education to students.

The MPH Program is housed within the Department of Kinesiology & Community Health within the College of Applied Health Sciences. Students take required courses within the Department of Kinesiology & Community Health and are able to choose electives from a range of interdisciplinary programs across campus. Courses offered by the MPH Program also routinely have students from other programs enrolled, including nutrition, social work, veterinary medicine, and more.

Epidemiology and related faculty in the Department of Kinesiology & Community Health conduct epidemiologic research that provides opportunities for student learning and training. Much of the work of these faculty members is designed to better understand health disparities, test possible interventions, and translate research findings into action for community members throughout Illinois.

Note that the MPH in Epidemiology is a significantly different program than the Community Health MS with a focus on epidemiology. The MS is a research-focused program, currently part of the pathway for students to earn an MS before moving onto PhD degree studies in the department. The plan of study for the MS is quite different, with far fewer required courses in foundational public health topics or epidemiology. The MPH in Epidemiology will also be a nationally accredited degree (as is the current MPH degree) through CEPH, the Council on Education for Public Health.

Tied to accreditation, the MPH in Epidemiology requires students to undertake an extensive (200+ hour) summer internship, technically referred to as the Applied Practice Experience or APE. This provides valuable on-site training for students to experience possible career paths while building technical skills, honing professional skills such as communication and leadership, and making connections with possible employers. Students are able to choose where and on what topic in which they conduct this internship. They receive guidance and support in establishing plans for their internship through the Public Health Professionalism course and their academic advising support. In addition, each MPH student completes a capstone project in their last semester, formally referred to as the Integrative Learning Experience or ILE. This is another hands-on opportunity to gain applied, real-world experience while making connections with possible employers. Unlike the APE, the ILE is project-focused and can be completed from any location. This allows students an opportunity to continue working with their APE organization if desired or develop a new connection for the project. Since students complete the ILE at the end of their degree, the goal is to see them integrate learning from multiple courses into their project. Past projects have included needs assessments, program evaluations, creating policy briefs, developing curriculum, pilot testing curriculum, implementing an outreach campaign, and more. Both the APE and ILE are only found in the MPH in Epidemiology, not in the MS degree. Also, the MS with a focus on epidemiology is under discussion in Kinesiology and Community Health, with the possibility of that major being discontinued.

University of Illinois

Briefly describe how this program will support the University's mission, focus and/or current priorities. Demonstrate the program's consistency with and centrality to that mission.

The MPH in Epidemiology teaches students to understand the distribution and determinants of disease. Inherent to public health is a focus on population health, impacting large numbers of community members with the greatest impact possible to improve their health. By training students in foundational public health concepts and skills, assessment and analytical skills in epidemiology and biostatistics, and coursework in implementing these tools in communities for community benefit, we are training the future public health and health data analysis workforce. Moreover, this epidemiology focus clearly aligns with our new campus strategic priorities in data sciences.

## State of Illinois

Indicate which of the following goals of the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Strategic Initiative are supported by this program: (choose all that apply)

Educational Attainment - increase educational attainment to match the best-performing states.  
High Quality Credentials to Meet Economic Demand - Increase the number of high-quality post-secondary credentials to meet the demands of the economy and an increasingly global society.

Describe how the proposed program supports these goals.

Demand for health data careers is growing rapidly. Education in utilizing computer packages for health research, understanding causes of health conditions, analyzing possible interventions, and understanding how to implement research and interview studies is vital to the health care and public health workforce. An MPH in Epidemiology prepares students for exactly this type of interdisciplinary role. There are currently only three accredited MPH programs in epidemiology right now in our large state, yet epidemiology is the most sought after MPH area of study both among domestic and international students. The other accredited MPH in Epidemiology programs right now are all located in Chicago, leaving the entire downstate area lacking in these advanced educational opportunities. Epidemiology provides a skill set that can be used in a multitude of settings in the US and abroad.

## Enrollment

Number of Students in Program (estimate)

Year One Estimate	5	5th Year Estimate (or when fully implemented)
15-18		

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

Year One Estimate	0	5th Year Estimate (or when fully implemented)
15-18		

What is the matriculation

term for this  
program?

Fall

#### Delivery Method

This program is  
available:

Face-to-Face

## Budget

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.)  
beyond what is currently available?

Yes

Please

explain/describe:

The program will require two new epidemiology faculty. Support for this investment comes from an Investment for Growth (IFG) proposal funded this year (2019) aimed at launching the MPH in Epidemiology, as well as support from the Department of Kinesiology & Community Health and the College of Applied Health Sciences. These faculty searches will occur this year (AY19-20), with one search for an Assistant Professor and one for an Associate Professor. These are listed on the official hiring plan for the Department and College. The search committee has been formed and is already close to posting the job announcement.

One Teaching Assistant (TA) role will be needed to support the new courses being offered in epidemiology, including teaching epidemiology lab sections and helping with grading and student support. This TA role is also supported through the IFG grant, with continued support from the Department and College.

In addition, as the MPH in Epidemiology grows larger, the program will add an additional staff support member to assist with recruiting, admissions, and other aspects of the program. This role is also supported through the IFG grant, with continued support from the Department and College.

The IFG grant budget of \$385,000 meets the financial needs identified for the new program. This seed funding should allow the program time to become established and grow to then continue sustainably on its own based on tuition revenue generated.

Additional Budget  
Information

Attach File(s)

## Resource Implications

## Facilities

Will the program require new or additional facilities or significant improvements to already existing facilities?

No

## Technology

Will the program need additional technology beyond what is currently available for the unit?

No

## Non-Technical Resources

Will the program require additional supplies, services or equipment (non-technical)?

No

# Resources

## Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc. Describe how the unit will support student advising, including job placement and/or admission to advanced studies.

With the two new tenure-track faculty hired via the IFG funding, the MPH in Epidemiology should gain the additional faculty support needed. These new faculty, combined with existing faculty, will be able to cover the required core courses, courses specific to the MPH in Epidemiology, and the other existing teaching requirements for the MPH and Community Health degrees. We anticipate that class sizes will increase by 5-10 students per class. Since most MPH courses held now are small (20=30 students or less), accommodating the additional students seems very reasonable. Should faculty need additional TAs, that adjustment will be made within the Department. The additional student affairs roles will also be able to help support the growing MPH student body. Student-to-faculty ratios will change, but are presently very low, most years with a 3:1 ratio. If this changes, and even doubles or triples (6:1, 9:1), these ratios are still very realistic. Student advising services, including academic and career advising, are described above in the Advising Services section.

## Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

As a relatively small program, starting with an estimated five students and growing to approximately 20 students by year five of matriculating students into the program, we do not see an impact on library resources.

## Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

No

## Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

**Tuition Rate:** We propose to set tuition rate for the MPH in Epidemiology at the same rate set for the current MPH offering. That is graduate base tuition + \$3,000 for the year. This is a competitive price in line with similar R1 public school tuition (ex: UIC), and significantly lower than private school tuition (ex: Loyola or Northwestern).

**Self-Supporting:** The existing MPH in Health Behavior & Promotion is a self-supporting program, and most MPH degrees offered throughout the US are operated in this manner. This is consistent with most professional and practitioner degrees offered in the country as well. To have parity with this existing MPH major, we request that the MPH in Epidemiology operate in the same manner. In addition, this program is being launched with funding from the Investment for Growth program on campus, which specifically targets programs that can offer important benefit to students and show financial sustainability for campus.

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

[MPH EPI SS Form.pdf](#)

Will an existing tuition rate be used or continue to be used for this program?

Yes

Is this program requesting self-supporting status?

Yes

If yes, please explain

The existing MPH with an emphasis in Health Behavior & Promotion is a self-supporting program, as are most MPH degrees offered throughout the US. This is consistent with

most professional/practitioner degrees. To have parity with this existing MPH major, we request that the MPH in Epidemiology operate in the same manner. In addition, this program is being launched with funding from the Investment for Growth program on campus, which specifically looks at programs that can offer important benefit to students and show financial sustainability for campus.

## Market Demand

What market indicators are driving this proposal? If similar programs exist in the state, describe how this program offers a unique opportunity for students:

The proposed MPH in Epidemiology will be of high interest to potential applicants, as epidemiology is the most highly sought after MPH degree both in the US and abroad. According to the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (2019), from 2017 to 2018, almost 10,000 of the approximately 41,000 MPH applicants were focused on Epidemiology. The next closest focus area received approximately 6,600 applicants.

In addition to these data, our own qualitative findings demonstrate higher interest in our program if we offer an MPH in Epidemiology. Among the email and virtual chat inquiries we receive from prospective students, many are looking for an MPH in Epidemiology that we currently do not offer. These inquiries come from in-state, including students on our own campus, out-of-state, and international students. Many other MPH programs within Illinois, both accredited and not, offer an MPH in Epidemiology, and prospective MPH students often elect to enroll at another Illinois institution offering this plan of study. With the addition of an MPH in Epidemiology on campus, we will recruit new Illinois, out-of-state residents, and international students to our campus and retain talented undergraduate alumni, who currently pursue graduate degrees elsewhere. This program will attract students interested in the intersection of health and data analytics, a growing field with excellent job prospects. Moreover, this epidemiology focus clearly aligns with our new campus strategic priorities in data sciences and could help us develop new partners on campus and externally.

Epidemiology options are available at a handful of universities within Illinois, some of which are accredited (Loyola, Northwestern, University of Illinois at Chicago), and some of which are not (Benedictine and DePaul). This new MPH in Epidemiology will build upon existing partnerships with other campus programs and increase interactions with these collaborators. Current MPH faculty collaborate with individuals in the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the School of Information Sciences, and the Carle Illinois School of Medicine. Interested Applied Health Sciences (AHS) students take courses and conduct research with these partners, and students from the other programs do the same with AHS. Students in the new MPH in Epidemiology will complete most of their course work in AHS, and will be able to take elective courses from this array of partners on campus such as Food Science & Human Nutrition, Pathobiology, and Veterinary Clinical Medicine. This will appeal to students seeking interdisciplinary training and research experiences.

The Illinois MPH in Epidemiology would be unique among the competition in the state because of its interdisciplinary nature and cutting-edge links to technology. Students at our campus would be able to take courses and participate in research at the intersection of epidemiology, health technology, and data analysis. Due to the partnerships AHS has in place with Nutrition and Veterinary Medicine, interested students would be able to take an elective course in these departments, such as Nutritional Epidemiology or One Health, One Policy: Emerging Disease and Public Policy. Students may also choose to take an elective course from the Health Technology graduate program in AHS, where they could learn about wearable sensors, GIS, and the resulting data available to monitor health trends at individual and population levels. Students could participate in research with the Health Data Analytics Initiative on campus, allowing access to exploring machine learning in health and health care.

These cross-cutting courses, and the ability to conduct research with faculty throughout AHS and across our vibrant campus, adds additional draw to our MPH program compared to others in the state and will create strong interest among potential students. This new offering brings additional appeal to international students compared to our current MPH option, because an MPH in Epidemiology is considered a STEM degree. A STEM classified degree provides international students eligibility for the coveted additional Optional Practical Training (OPT), which affords an additional visa extension of up to 2 years for F-1 visa holders. (That is up to 2 additional years of OPT on top of the 12 months of OPT a student visa holder is already eligible for having completed any graduate degree in the US.)

What type of employment outlook should these graduates expect? Explain how the program will meet the needs of regional and state employers, including any state agencies, industries, research centers, or other educational institutions that expressly encourage the program's development.

Graduating students leave with training in advanced epidemiology, advanced biostatistics, and computer packages for health research. This is a valuable skill set applicable in many fields. Graduates with an MPH in Epidemiology work in careers as epidemiologists in public health departments (city, county, state, federal), hospitals, and research centers. They work as consultants and health data analysts for the government, healthcare businesses, including clinics, hospitals, insurance companies, and pharmaceutical companies. Some students will also choose to pursue further education in doctoral research studies or clinical education such as pursuing their MD, NP, or PA degree. The fields all benefit from someone with a strong foundation in public health, epidemiology, and biostatistics as the graduates from this program will have.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics notes that the job of Epidemiologist is projected to have a 5% growth rate between 2018-2028. (Source: [https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/epidemiologists.htm#TB\\_inline?height=325&width=325&inlineId=qf-outlook](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/epidemiologists.htm#TB_inline?height=325&width=325&inlineId=qf-outlook)) Median salary for epidemiologists is \$69,660 per year. The same bureau lists median annual wages for epidemiologists in top industries in which they commonly work. This ranges from \$61,790 in academia to \$82,250 in hospitals to \$98,800 in scientific research and development services. (Source [https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes191041.htm#\(3\)](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes191041.htm#(3)))

What resources will be provided to assist students with job placement?

All students receive career advising. This begins in the Public Health Professionalism course students take in their first year, that helps expose students to the wide breadth of careers available in the field of public health and develops networking, resume and cover letter writing, and related professional development skills. This transitions into one-on-one career advising as students enter their final year of the program to help them hone in on finding jobs in their interest area, fine-tuning resumes and cover letters, practicing interviews, and services such as assistance with salary negotiation. Career advising is provided by the MPH Director and Assistant Director. In addition, students participate in fieldtrips locally as well further away, such as in Chicago and Springfield. These networking trips help students explore career interests and network with potential internship mentors and/or future employers.

Aligned with national accreditation, all MPH students conduct an extensive (200+ hour) summer internship, technically referred to as the Applied Practice Experience or APE. This provides valuable in situ training for students to experience possible career paths while building technical skills and professional development skills and making connections with possible employers. Students are able to choose where and on what topic they conduct this internship. They receive guidance and support in establishing plans for their internship through the Public Health Professional course and their academic advising support. In addition, each MPH student completes a capstone project in their last semester, formally referred to as the Integrative Learning Experience or ILE. This is another hands-on opportunity to gain applied, real-world experience while making connections with possible employers.

If letters of support are available attach them here:

## Program Regulation

Describe how the program is aligned with or meets licensure, certification, and/or entitlement requirements, if applicable.

Briefly describe the plan to assess and improve student learning, including the program's learning objectives; when, how, and where these learning objectives will be assessed; what metrics will be used to signify student's achievement of the stated learning objectives; and the process to ensure assessment results are used to improve student learning.

There is no required licensure or certification in this field, however the MPH Program is nationally accredited by CEPH, the Council for Education on Public Health. Extensive reporting, assessment, evaluation, and tracking occurs as part of being a nationally accredited program. Very detailed curriculum competency alignment, tracking, and reporting happen throughout the year to ensure the program is meeting the 30+ individual competencies CEPH requires. In addition, an active External Advisory Committee and student governance advisory committee are both required, and are active entities supporting the MPH program.

Paperwork to earn CEPH accreditation for the MPH in Epidemiology has already been submitted to CEPH in August 2019 per their timeline for reviewing new programs. Notification of that decision should be received by the end of September 2019. We fully intend to have the MPH in Epidemiology accredited. If not by the end of September 2019, we can submit revisions for December 2019 or March 2020 review by the accrediting body.

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

## Program of Study

*"Baccalaureate degree requires at least 120 semester credit hours or 180 quarter credit hours and at least 40 semester credit hours (60 quarter credit hours) in upper division courses" (source: <https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/PrivateAdminRules2017.pdf>). For proposals for new bachelor's degrees, if this minimum is not explicitly met by specifically-required 300- and/or 400-level courses, please provide information on how the upper-division hours requirement will be satisfied.*

All proposals must attach the new or revised version of the Academic Catalog program of study entry. Contact your college office if you have questions.

For new programs, attach Program of Study

[MPH EPI Program of Study.pdf](#)

Catalog Page Text

Catalog Page Text: Description of program for the catalog page. This is not official content, it is used to help build the catalog pages for the program. Can be edited in the catalog by the college or department.

The MPH in Epidemiology degree program requires a minimum of 48 hours. The program includes:

1. Five required core courses in basic content areas of public health
2. Four required courses in the Epidemiology focus area
3. An Applied Practice Experience (practicum)
4. An Integrative Learning Experience (capstone)
5. Seminars and electives

MPH students must complete all core coursework before enrolling in the MPH Applied Practice Experience. It is highly preferable for the applied practice experience to occur during summer term. The Integrative Learning Experience must be completed in the last term of study. There is no thesis requirement. Applicants to the epidemiology program should demonstrate strong quantitative skills. Applications for the Master of Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology are only accepted for Fall admission. The program generally takes 1.5 to 2 years to complete. University of Illinois undergraduate students who major in Kinesiology, Community Health, or Interdisciplinary Health Sciences are eligible to apply for a 5.5 year joint BS-MPH degree program after their 3rd (junior) year of undergraduate study. Students in the BS-MPH program begin some MPH coursework in their 4th (senior) year of undergraduate study, and begin graduate status in the MPH coursework in their 5th year of study.

Statement for Programs of Study Catalog

## Degree Requirements

### Course List

Code	Title	Hours
<a href="#">CHLH 410</a>	Public Health Practice	4
<a href="#">CHLH 469</a>	Environmental Health	3 or 4
<a href="#">CHLH 550</a>	Health Policy: United States	4
<a href="#">CHLH 568</a>	Computer Packages in Health Research (Computer Packages in Health Research) New 2 course going through educational policy review and approval process concurrent to this proposal	2
<a href="#">CHLH 572</a>	Principles of Epidemiology	4
<a href="#">CHLH 573</a>	Biostatistics in Public Health	4
<a href="#">CHLH 576</a>	Analytical Epidemiology (Analytical Epidemiology) New course going through educational policy review and approval process concurrent to this proposal	4
<a href="#">CHLH 578</a>	Applied Epidemiology	4
<a href="#">CHLH 581</a>	Professionalism in Public Health (Professionalism in Public Health 2 semesters) CHLH 581 is currently offered as CHLH 594 (special topics). This course is going through the educational policy process to become a permanent course this year.	2
<a href="#">CHLH 582</a>	Advanced Biostatistics (Advanced Biostatistics) New course going through educational policy review and approval process concurrent to this proposal	4

Code	Title	Hours
<a href="#">CHLH 587</a>	MPH Applied Practice Experience	4
<a href="#">CHLH 589</a>	MPH Integrative Learning Experience	2
Electives	2 courses, 3-4 hours each	8
Total	(minimum required)	48

Hours

## Other Requirements

### Grad Degree Requirements

Required Courses:

Required Hours

Minimum 500-level hours Required Overall:

12 (8 within the unit)

Minimum GPA

3.0

## EP Documentation

Attach

Rollback/Approval

Notices

## DMI Documentation

Attach Final

Approval Notices

Attached

Document

Justification for

this request

Program Reviewer

Comments

**Deb Forgacs (dforgacs) (09/16/19 9:17 am):** Rollback: requested.

**Justin Aronoff (jaronoff) (09/18/19 10:37 pm):** The proposal indicates a number of specific departments where students may take classes to fill the electives requirement. It would be helpful to have letters of support from those departments. It would also be helpful to have more details on the nature of the capstone project. In the Academic Catalog program of study entry, it indicates that core coursework must be completed before enrolling in the MPH Applied Practice Experience, but it is not clear which of the listed courses constitute the core coursework. Additionally, it states that there are a minimum of 12 500-level hours required (8 within the unit), but the list of required courses has more 500-level hours than that. Finally, it would be helpful to indicate the current state of the new courses and when it is anticipated that they will be through the approval process.

**Laura Payne (lpayne) (09/20/19 8:45 am):** I have several suggestions: More substance ones: 1) Program description and justification: I suggest they mention Urban and Regional Planning. City/community planners address population health in

their planning. URP at IL is a highly ranked program nationally. 2) Also in justification: Is there any trend data to show evidence for a demand for trained public health scientists and professionals with an EPI focus? It could be a compelling statement here and the lack of access to programs downstate is mentioned later. 3) Employment outlook: I think this would be stronger if it included some evidence/data on the employment outlook. I am sure this can easily be found and included. It would strengthen this section. Minor things: 1) Institutional context: switch out "soft skills" for "professional development knowledge, skills and abilities or skills and abilities; 2) Pgm Des./Justify: Dept. names: Food Science and Human Nutrition (not Nutrition); 3) same section: Educate instead of train?

**Robyn Gobin (rgobin) (09/20/19 9:19 am):** The proposal indicates that new faculty will need to be hired to accommodate additional epidemiology-focused course work. Is there a contingency plan in the case that the searches do not yield new faculty in time for the first class to begin?

**Andiara Schwingel (andiara) (09/20/19 9:27 am):** The proposal seeks to expand the KCH accredited Master of Public Health (MPH), currently focused on Health Behavior & Promotion, to include a new concentration in Epidemiology. This new concentration is in high demand and is projected to attract more students in this self-supporting MPH program, offer courses in Epi to the broader campus, and strengthening research in the areas of chronic disease, health disparities, and the social determinants of health. Support for this new concentration came from an Investment for Growth proposal funded this year. A suggestion I have is to expand the description of the Applied Practice Experience (APE) and the Integrative Learning Experience (IPE or capstone); and explain if and how these two requirements (IPE, APE) for MPH in Epi will distinguish for the Health Behavior & Promotion concentration. A minor comment is to remove "Appendix A, below" and "Reference B, below" in the proposal, or add this information.

**Liza Berdychevsky (lizabk) (09/20/19 10:45 am):** MPH in Epidemiology looks like a much needed addition that should offer potential for collaborations across campus, bring two new faculty, and attract self-supporting students. The presented rationale is compelling and the program of studies looks good. It would be helpful to clearly identify core classes. It is also helpful that the differences between the MPH in Epidemiology and the Community Health MS with a focus on Epidemiology are stated.

**Reggie Alston (alston) (09/23/19 2:37 pm):** Justine, See EPC's comments above and please revise the proposal as we agreed this morning.

**Reggie Alston (alston) (09/23/19 2:38 pm):** Rollback: Please forward to Justine.

# Public Health, MPH

for the Master of Public Health

program website: <http://mph.illinois.edu/>

The MPH in Epidemiology degree program requires a minimum of 50 hours. The program includes:

1. Five required core courses in basic content areas of public health
2. Four required courses in the Epidemiology concentration
3. An Applied Practice Experience (practicum)
4. An Integrative Learning Experience (capstone)
5. Seminars and electives

MPH students must complete all core coursework before enrolling in the MPH Applied Practice Experience. It is highly preferable for the applied practice experience to occur during summer term. The Integrative Learning Experience must be completed in the last term of study. There is no thesis requirement. Applicants to the epidemiology program should be strong quantitatively. Applications for the Master of Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology are only accepted for Fall admission. The program generally takes 1.5 to 2 years to complete. University of Illinois undergraduate students who major in Kinesiology, Community Health, or I-Health are eligible to apply for a 5.5 year joint BS-MPH degree program after their 3rd (junior) year of undergraduate study. Students in the BS-MPH program begin some MPH coursework in their 4th (senior) year of undergraduate study, and take MPH coursework in a 5th year of study in fall, spring, and summer terms.

Plan of Study for MPH in Epidemiology		
Course number	Course name	Hours
CHLH 410	Public Health Practice	4
CHLH 469	Environmental Health	4
CHLH 550	Health Policy	4
CHLH 568 (new)	Computer Packages for Health Research	2
CHLH 572	Principles of Epidemiology	4
CHLH 573	Biostatistics in Public Health	4
CHLH 576 (new)	Analytical Epidemiology	4
CHLH 578	Applied Epidemiology	4
CHLH 582 (new)	Advanced Biostatistics	4
CHLH 587	MPH Applied Practice Experience	4
CHLH 589	MPH Integrative Learning Experience	2
CHLH 594- PH	Public Health Professionalism (two terms, each 1 credit)	2
Electives	2 elective courses, 4 units each course	8
<b>TOTAL UNITS</b>		<b>50</b>

## Other Requirements<sup>1</sup>

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:	12 (8 within the unit)
Minimum GPA:	3.0
Grad Other Degree Requirements	

<sup>1</sup> For additional details and requirements refer to the department's [Graduate Handbook](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).



**GRADUATE COLLEGE**

110 Coble Hall, MC-322  
801 S. Wright St.  
Champaign, IL 61820

**PROGRAM TUITION WAIVER POLICY PROPOSAL**

Proposals to establish or revise tuition waiver policy for a graduate program will follow a shared governance approval process (Department, School, College, Graduate College).

**Definitions of Tuition Waiver Policy Designations:**

**Traditional Programs.** Programs either designated as generating full or base-rate tuition waivers. Base rate waivers waives only the Resident Graduate Base tuition amount. Non-Residents or students in a program with an additional tuition differential will be responsible for the remaining portion of tuition.

**Reimbursable Programs.** Programs identified as programs that would be reimbursed from an appointing unit outside their academic college.

**Cost-recovery and self-supporting programs.** Students in approved cost-recovery and self-supporting programs are not eligible to receive tuition and fee waivers except statutory waivers. Students in these programs are not eligible to hold a waiver generating graduate appointment (Assistantship or Fellowship). Full time employees may be admitted to these programs, but their employee waiver is not eligible for use towards a program with this designation.

Additional information related to these tuition waiver designations can be found here:  
<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/2/chapter7/tuition-waivers#otherprovisions>.

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

COLLEGE OR SCHOOL: Applied Health Sciences

PROGRAM(s) (Include Program Codes if applicable):  
MPH in Epidemiology

**REQUESTED DESIGNATION (Select desired designation type):**

Self-Supporting

Comments:

See justification sheet

**JUSTIFICATION: On a separate sheet, please address the following.**

1. Describe the reasons for this request and explain: (a) the pros and cons of the classification requested, and (b) how the requested classification will benefit and not adversely affect the academic quality of the program.
2. What type of financial assistance will be offered to students in the program?
3. Has this program had past practice of offering graduate assistantships? If so, please describe.
4. What provisions will be made to communicate the new classification to prospective and newly admitted students?

**APPROVALS: (May use Adobe Signature or print and sign the document)**

**Department Executive Officer Signature and Date:** *Amelia M. Woods* Digitally signed by Amelia Mays Woods  
DN: cn=Amelia Mays Woods, o=University of Illinois,  
ou=Kinesiology and Community Health,  
email=amymwoods@illinois.edu, c=US  
Date: 2019.10.04 16:16:14 -05'00'

**Disciplinary College Signature and Date:** Cheryl Hanley-Maxwell, Dean Digitally signed by Cheryl Hanley-Maxwell,  
Dean  
Date: 2019.10.04 17:26:58 -05'00'

**Graduate College Signature and Date:**  Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko, Dean 10/9/2019



## **PROGRAM TUITION WAIVER POLICY PROPOSAL JUSTIFICATION**

- 1. Describe the reasons for this request and explain: (a) the pros and cons of the classification requested, and (b) how the requested classification will benefit and not adversely affect the academic quality of the program.**

The existing MPH degree offered on campus is self-supporting and has been since its inception in 2007. We are requesting that the new MPH in Epidemiology major follow the same plan as the existing MPH major so that both are aligned.

- a) The benefit of classifying the new MPH in Epidemiology degree with the current MPH degree (focused on health behavior and promotion) is that the degrees have parity in tuition. The means students in the two different MPH degrees will both feel and be treated as equals.
- b) Most MPH degrees across the nation are self-supporting degrees, where students usually pay tuition for the degree. The fact that the department offers some scholarships helps students tremendously as well. The existing MPH program has recruited strong students, so we foresee being able to do so with the MPH in Epidemiology too.

- 2. What type of financial assistance will be offered to students in the program?**

Students in the MPH in Epidemiology major will be treated like the other MPH students, where they can be considered for scholarships offered by the department. These scholarships are offered based on merit and/or need. MPH students are also encouraged to apply for scholarships they are eligible for, which includes some limited campus opportunities as well as external scholarships, such as the Illinois Public Health Association scholarship.

- 3. Has this program had past practice of offering graduate assistantships? If so, please describe.**

The MPH program was developed as a self-supporting program, and has been its entirety. Thus, bringing on the MPH in Epidemiology major as self-supporting aligns with the current and historical structure for the MPH.

- 4. What provisions will be made to communicate the new classification to prospective and newly admitted students?**

Since this is not a new classification, but instead applying an existing classification to a new major with the overarching MPH Program, the communication will remain the same. The MPH website clearly provides information about tuition rates, as well as information noting that the program does not offer or accept tuition waivers. (Screenshot included on following page.) This same communication is used in information sessions, at graduate school fairs and other recruiting events, and in new student orientations.

# TUITION RATES

The MPH program does not offer or accept tuition waivers. For more information on Scholarships and Financial aid opportunities, please visit [this link](#).

## Full Time Graduate Tuition Rates

	Fall 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020
<b>Resident</b>	\$7,971 for credits $\geq$ 12	\$7,971 for credits $\geq$ 12	\$665/ credit
<b>Non Resident or International</b>	\$15,480 for credits $\geq$ 12	\$15,480 for credits $\geq$ 12	\$1,290/ credit

For more details, please visit the [Office of the Registrar](#).

A student must register for at least 12 credit hours per semester in Fall and Spring semesters to be considered a full time student. Registering for more than 12 credits will not increase tuition costs. The tuition rates in summer semester are determined per credit hour.

### Total costs for various degree tracks:

**2-year MPH track:** Typically, students enroll in full time status for **FOUR** semesters (2 fall semesters and 2 spring semesters). These students ordinarily do not enroll in any summer courses.

**1.5-year MPH track:** Typically, students enroll in full time status for **THREE** semesters (2 fall semesters and 1 spring semester). These students ordinarily do not enroll in any summer courses.

**BS-MPH track:** Typically, students enroll in full time status for **TWO** semesters (1 Fall and 1 Spring). Additionally, these students complete **6 credit hours during Summer** (6 times per-credit rate). Undergraduate tuition rates apply during senior year of undergraduate work, with no extra tuition for the MPH courses.

**MPH-MBA, MPH-MUP, MPH-PhD track:** The tuition for the MPH part of these joint degrees is same as 2-year or 1.5 year depending on how fast the student completes the degree requirements (4 semesters vs. 3 semesters).