



Public Health Competencies For The Practice Experience

1. Translation and Dissemination - As part of the change process (from discovery to improving public health) translation is the process of adapting information so that it is relevant to users, and dissemination is the widespread communication of that information

1.1 Communicate complex information in formats, both written and oral, that are understandable to target audiences, e.g., policy makers, administrators, general public, etc.

1.2 Use innovative methods to communicate public health lessons learned.

2. Leadership - The ability to create and communicate a shared vision for a better future, champion solutions for organizational and community challenges and energize commitment to goals

2.1 Articulate and model stewardship of organizational resources and sensitivity to balancing the needs of organization, clients and/or constituents.

2.2 Demonstrate the ability to make choices and use creative problem-solving.

2.3 Know, support and use team development methods.

3. Communication and Informatics - The ability to collect, manage and organize information, and to give, solicit, and receive oral, written, graphic and numerical information in both formal and informal settings of professional public health practice

3.1 Solicit input from and information sharing among individuals and organizations.

3.2 Use the public health information infrastructure to collect and process data, and translate data into information for application to public health problems.

4. Systems and Critical Thinking - The ability to recognize dynamic interactions among individuals, groups, organizations and communities, and to think holistically about those relationships from a local to a global perspective

4.1 Ask appropriate questions, clarify assumptions and apply data when making decisions.

4.2 Explain the roles of the public and private sectors in meeting health needs and priorities [in particular, the role of the Practice Experience organization].

4.3 Identify the organizational relationships in the delivery of health services in a community and the patterns of health access among individuals and within various communities.

5. Health Policy and Law - The ability to act within the multidisciplinary field of public-sector development and enactment of policy, law and regulation of public health, health care and medicine

5.1 Explain the legal and political processes of developing policy at the national, state or local levels [including application in Practice Experience site].

5.2 Explain how public and private organizations operate and interact within a community [including strategies for team building and resource sharing].

6. Ethics and Professionalism - The ability to demonstrate ethical choices, values and professional practices implicit in public health decisions, giving consideration to the effect of choices on community stewardship, equity, social justice and accountability, as well as to commit to personal and institutional development.

6.1 Develop public health programs and strategies in ways that are responsive to the diverse cultural values and traditions of communities being served.

6.2 Protect confidential data and information, and obtain informed consent for participation in public health interventions, services, and research projects.

7. Cultural Competence - The ability to interact sensitively and professionally with individuals and communities with diverse backgrounds, including cultural, ethnic, socioeconomic, religious, sexual orientation, ability, social identity, acculturation, etc

7.1 Evaluate programs for cultural appropriateness and implement changes to increase appropriateness for diverse backgrounds.

8. Management - The ability to organize, supervise, direct and evaluate the delivery, quality and costs of services for the health of individuals and populations

8.1 Identify and articulate the value of integrating strategic concerns, operational issues and organizational performance.

8.2 Define basic concepts of strategic planning and plan implementation and evaluation [relative to organization].

**Saint Louis University School of Public Health
Community Health Practice Experience Program 2008-09**

9. <u>Program Planning</u> - The ability to design, develop, implement and evaluate strategies and interventions to improve individual and community health
9.1 Identify existing effective evidence-based programs and materials appropriate to organization needs.
9.2 Identify socio-demographic, cultural, and political issues related to organization's audiences and stakeholders.
9.3 Assess critically evaluation reports and contribute to design of effective evaluation methods.
10. <u>Public Health Biology</u> - The biological and molecular context of public health and its incorporation into practice
10.1 Discuss the biology of major determinants of national and global public health [and as related to health goals of placement organization].
10.2 Apply knowledge of biology to development and implementation of disease prevention, control and management programs.
11. <u>Behavioral Science Core</u> - The use of evidence-based approaches in the development and evaluation of social and behavioral science interventions
11.1 Describe the concepts of health, health promotion, health education, and community participation (especially as relevant to organization).
11.2 Assess the extent to which health promotion strategies are accomplishing their intended goals through the application of appropriate methods of evaluation.
11.3 Explore the impact of policy on behavior change and other outcomes.
12. <u>Biostatistics Core</u> - The development and application of statistical reasoning and methods in addressing, analyzing and solving problems in public health, health care and biomedical, clinical and population-based research
12.1 Articulate basic concepts of probability, random variables, and distributions, and apply descriptive techniques commonly used to summarize data.
12.2 Communicate statistical analyses and results at a level appropriate to those either experienced or inexperienced in quantitative methods.
13. <u>Environmental and Occupational Health Core</u> - The recognition, evaluation and control of environmental factors that may adversely impact human health or the ecological balances to human health and environmental quality, whether in the natural or human-made environment. These factors include, but are not limited to, air, food and water contaminants, radiation, toxic chemicals, wastes, disease vectors, safety hazards and habitat alterations
13.1 Recognize interactions between genetic, physiologic, psychosocial, and cultural factors that affect susceptibility to environmentally linked adverse health outcomes.
13.2 Identify and communicate strategies for preventing and controlling hazards within the biological, cultural, and behavioral context of populations.
14. <u>Epidemiology Core</u> - The study of the distribution and determinants of disease in human populations and the application of this study to the control of health problems
14.1 Identify leading public health problems, key risk factors and methods for collecting, analyzing, and reporting surveillance data for these health issues.
14.2 Able to interpret results, make appropriate inferences based on results and recognize public health and clinical implications of results.
14.3 Describe the key facilitators and barriers to the use of epidemiologic data for public health and policy-related decision-making.