

Council on Education for Public Health

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September 26, 2019

Ellyn R. Mulcahy, PhD, MPH Director Kansas State University Master of Public Health Program 311 Trotter Hall 1700 Denison Avenue Manhattan, KS 66506-5615

Dear Dr. Mulcahy,

On behalf of the Council on Education for Public Health, I am pleased to advise you that the CEPH Board of Councilors acted at its September 6, 2019 meeting to accredit the Master of Public Health Program at Kansas State University for a seven-year term, with an interim report to be submitted in summer 2020.

The accreditation term extends until December 31, 2026, pending the program's continued documentation of compliance through the interim report, annual reporting, and any other reporting required by the Council.

The interim report will be due on July 29, 2020 and must address the criteria for which there was a "partially met" assessment. Specifically, the interim report due in summer 2020 should provide evidence that the program has:

- a) Defined appropriate assessment activities for foundational competencies 21 and 22. The report must include an updated version of Template D2-2 and all relevant syllabi and other documentation as needed. (Criterion D2)
- b) Defined appropriate assessment activities for all competencies in the PHN concentration. The report must include an updated version of Template D4-2 and all relevant syllabi and other documentation as needed. (Criterion D4)
- c) Implemented policies and practices for the APE that ensure that all students demonstrate, and are specifically assessed on, attainment of at least five competencies. (Criterion D5)

Please be aware that failure to come into compliance with all accreditation criteria must trigger specific actions on CEPH's part. These actions, mandated in federal regulations governing accrediting agencies that are recognized by the US Department of Education, include initiating adverse action or, if good cause is demonstrated, extending by one year the period during which the program or school may come into compliance with the remaining criteria, after which CEPH must take adverse action. CEPH is required to deny or revoke accreditation when a school or program fails to demonstrate that it has come into compliance. Thus, interim reports have serious consequences. Additional information about preparing interim reports is available on the <u>CEPH website</u>.

We are enclosing a copy of the Council's final accreditation report. The report is also being transmitted to the chief executive officer of your university as the Council's official report. This differs from the team's report that you received prior to our meeting in the following areas:

- The Council changed the findings for Criteria B4 (Alumni Perceptions) and B6 (Use of Evaluation Data) from partially met to met and added language explaining its rationale.
- The Council added language to Criteria D2 (Foundational Competencies) and D4 (Concentration Competencies) clarifying its concerns in light of the program's response to the site visit team's report.
- The Council changed the finding for Criterion D5 (Applied Practice Experiences) from met to partially met and added language explaining its rationale.

I would like to call your attention to the disclosure provisions in our adopted procedures. The program is expected to make its official accreditation report available to the public on request 60 days following the accreditation decision. *The program may make the report and final self-study available in full on its website, or it must clearly indicate on the website how to request a copy of either document.* See Section 7 of the <u>Accreditation Procedures</u> for additional information.

You may append a written response whenever you distribute the report. The official report also will be available on request from CEPH after 60 days, but it is our intent to refer all initial requests to you. If you provide this office with a copy of a written response by October 25, 2019, we will be pleased to append it whenever we respond to a request for the report. Please note that this response is optional.

We would also like to remind you that whenever an accredited school or program undergoes a substantive change, it is obligated to provide written notification to CEPH of the intended change. Substantive changes are defined in the procedures manual, but generally include offering a new degree, adding or discontinuing an area of specialization, offering a degree program in a different format or at a distant site and making major revisions to the curricular requirements. Additional information about substantive changes is available on our <u>website</u>.

We appreciated the many courtesies and helpfulness extended to the site visit team.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Miles-Richardson, DVM, PhD President

cc: CEPH Councilors