**MPH Core Competencies**

At the time of graduation each MPH student should meet the following competencies:

**A. Principles of Public Health**

1. Identify the behavioral determinants of complex public health issues, and apply behavioral theories to the development and implementation of program and policies.
2. Assess the impact of social, political, economic and cultural forces on the development and implementation of health policy options and programs.
3. Discuss the inter-relationships between political and economic forces, technology, environmental processes and behaviors on exposures to environmental risk factors and subsequent health outcomes.
4. Evaluate the influence of behavioral, social, cultural, political, economic, environmental factors on the initiation and persistence of health disparities among sub-populations.
5. Describe the public health systems and structures at the local, region/state, national and international levels, and how their structure affects the development, delivery and quality of programs and policies.

**B. Core Functions of Public Health: Assessment, Program Development and Assurance**

6. Utilize descriptive and inferential statistical methods and epidemiologic principles to:
   a. critically evaluate and interpret scientific evidence from published studies,
   b. clearly articulate a public health issue and formulate relevant research questions,
   c. design appropriate/effective methods for collecting health and risk factor data for community needs assessments, surveillance, research and program evaluation.
   d. measure and compare the health status of populations,
   e. evaluate public health interventions and
   f. provide a basis for making decisions and developing policy and recommendations.

7. Based on existing data and information, develop goals, measurable objectives, programmatic activities, and expected outcomes for a public health program.

**C. Professionalism, Leadership and Community Engagement**

8. Use team building, negotiation, and conflict management skills to achieve organizational and community health goals.
9. Demonstrate effective written and oral skills for communicating with a wide range of audiences and in a variety of public health practice settings.
10. Apply social justice and human rights principles and use the basic concepts and skills regarding culturally appropriate community engagement and empowerment when addressing community needs.
11. Recognize the ethical principles that underlie the values of integrity, respect, transparency, accountability and equity in public health practice.

**MSPH Core Competencies**

At the time of graduation each MSPH student should meet the MPH Core Competencies, as well as competencies that reflect the skills to assist in and conduct public health assessment, evaluation and
research. The addition Core Competencies for the MSPH degree are:

1. Synthesize existing research and develop a testable research hypothesis.
2. Be proficient in the use of a statistical programming language (SAS, STATA, R) for integrating data, preparing data for analysis, managing databases and conducting descriptive and inferential statistics.
3. Describe the principles of the Human Subject Protection and apply these principles to the design and conduct of research.

**PhD in Public Health Core Competencies**

PhD students are expected to meet not only the MPH Core Competencies described above, but to also meet a set of more advanced core competencies reflecting the skills and knowledge needed to conduct high quality public health research that reflects the ethical treatment of individuals and communities in the conduct of human research. At the time of graduation each PhD student should meet the following PhD Core Competencies:

1. Synthesize existing research and develop a testable research hypothesis.
2. Apply the basic tenets of public health to research problems.
3. Develop expertise in their area of study.
4. Create an appropriate study design to address a research question.
5. Describe the principles of the Human Subject Protection and apply these principles to the design and conduct of research.
6. Demonstrate required skills for data collection, management and analysis.
7. Based on research findings, develop relevant programmatic and policy recommendations.
8. Effectively communicate research ideas and findings orally and in writing.