

## **Council on Education for Public Health: Call for Practitioner Peer Reviewers**

**The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) seeks nominations of public health practitioners to serve as site visitors.**

CEPH provides comprehensive training to prepare site visitors for their roles. Site visitors must:

- complete all modules of self-paced online training course
- participate in at least one distance-based summative workshop
- submit documents as requested

### **What is a site visitor?**

Site visitors:

- serve the public health field as volunteer peer reviewers<sup>1</sup>
- help assure quality in public health higher education

Site visitors perform the following duties:

- travel to universities that hold or seek accreditation for programs of study in public health
- participate in 2-3 days of on-site interviews at the university
- collaborate with fellow reviewers to draft a report that assesses the extent to which the school or program meets the accreditation criteria
- bring public health workforce perspectives to the accreditation process

### **Qualifications:**

- Hold or held<sup>2</sup> a position as a senior public health practitioner AND
- Are or were primarily employed in a non-academic setting relevant to public health AND
- Are not currently employed by an institution of higher learning in any capacity other than providing adjunct instruction AND
- Possess at least 10 years of professional experience in public health AND
- Have a master's degree in public health or a closely related field, at a minimum AND
- Possess strong writing, communication and analytical skills

### **Time commitment:**

The online training course requires 2-3 hours of self-paced work a month over a 3-4 month period and is followed by a 2-hour, distance-based, live training session with discussion and application exercises. All online modules must be completed before attending the live session.

After completing training, site visitors participate in approximately one site visit a year. Requests for participation typically come to visitors 4-9 months in advance of the site visit.

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<sup>1</sup> CEPH does not pay honoraria for the services of team members but does reimburse actual costs.

<sup>2</sup> 'Held' refers to retired individuals.

Each site visit requires the following:

- Approximately 15-30 hours of preparatory work in the two months immediately preceding the site visit. Preparation includes reviewing documents, drafting report sections, booking travel and participating in a conference call
- 3-4 days of travel and on-site work, including full-day agendas and evening meetings
- Approximately 2 hours after the site visit for editing, review and final paperwork

**To nominate a practitioner who meets the qualifications below and may be willing to commit to the role, email [submissions@ceph.org](mailto:submissions@ceph.org) with the following information:**

- Full name
- Email
- Title
- Employer

CEPH staff will follow up directly with qualified individuals to provide additional information.

**Background:**

CEPH is an independent agency recognized by the US Department of Education to accredit schools of public health and public health programs offered in other university settings. These schools and programs prepare students for entry into careers in public health. The primary professional degree is the Master of Public Health (MPH) but baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees are offered as well.

Accreditation is a voluntary, non-governmental process of self-study and external review intended to evaluate, enhance and publicly recognize quality in programs of public health and schools of public health. One of the steps required for accreditation is a site visit during which peer evaluators validate the information that schools and programs provide to CEPH in a "self-study document." The peer evaluators' written report from the site visit provides a unique perspective about the program or school: the report's direct observations provide important information for ultimate decisions on accreditation.

Updated: September 8, 2020