

Compliance reporting and technical assistance: What's next?

CEPH received the first round of reports demonstrating units' compliance with the revised accreditation criteria on January 9, 2018.

Schools and programs that submitted an "Option A" report can expect to receive a response on each element indicating that the Council was either able to validate coverage or that they could not validate ("CNV") coverage. The CNV designation may be due to challenges in interpreting the documentation, or to a substantive issue, such as lack of adequate assessment for the given element. Schools and programs with CNV designations must resubmit updated documentation for those elements no later than January 9, 2019.

Schools and programs that submitted "Option B" are continuing to work through their plans and will submit the Option A report no later than January 9, 2019.

While some schools and programs will be required to participate in phone conversations and/or consultations based on their 2018 report submissions, CEPH offers a number of resources that may be useful to all schools and programs. Information on each opportunity is available on the CEPH website.

- Staff will hold [small-group online consultation sessions](#) between March and October 2018 to review draft documentation and to allow schools and programs to exchange information with one another.

Each consultation will have up to eight schools or programs participating. The consultations will provide units with the opportunity to receive detailed, in-depth feedback from CEPH staff and to share ideas and strategies with other schools and programs.

CEPH hosted eight small-group consults in 2017, and 36 schools and programs

participated in these webinars. Robyn Gertner, from the CUNY SPH, reflected, "We walked away from the session having a far better understanding of the competency-assessment relationship. We're now able to pass this knowledge on to faculty who are developing syllabi for proposed core courses."

- CEPH will host 2 two-day Accreditation Orientation Workshops (AOW) in [March](#) and [July](#) of 2018 in Washington, DC. Both sessions will offer programming that addresses the 2016 Criteria in detail. In conjunction with the scheduled AOW sessions, CEPH is offering optional one-hour express consultations. The optional express consultations provide opportunities for individual feedback.
- Distance-based and in-person [consultation visits](#) are available upon request.
- CEPH regularly updates its [list of FAQ on the 2016 Criteria](#). Topics include evaluation, resources and curriculum. Most recently, this page was updated to include questions received at the 2016 Criteria Workshop held in Washington, DC in October 2017. In addition, the FAQs include [video modules](#) with helpful hints from CEPH staff.
- CEPH will offer [webinars](#) that relate to specific findings and examples from this round of compliance reporting in March and June of 2018. Additional webinars will be scheduled for fall 2018.
- CEPH maintains an [archive](#) of past presentations relating to the 2016 Criteria.

If you have any questions about the 2016 Criteria or compliance reporting, please do not hesitate to [contact](#) the CEPH office.

DATES TO REMEMBER

P-AOW (PHP/SPH & SBP) Webinars

PHP/SPH session: 1-2:00pm ET

SBP session: 2:30-3:30pm ET

Monday, January 29

Thursday, April 12

Thursday, June 28

Winter Council Meeting

February 2-3

Group Compliance Consultations

March through October 2018

Accreditation Orientation Workshop

[March 5-6](#) in Arlington, VA

[July 26-27](#) in Washington, DC

CEPH at ASPPH

(UG Summit and Annual Meeting)

March 7-9

SBP: Inquirer Webinar

Thursday, March 22

2:00-3:00pm ET

TA WEBINAR: 2016 Criteria: Summary of initial results from compliance reports & highlights of best practices

Tuesday, March 27

12:00-1:00pm ET

Friday, March 30 (repeat session)

1:00-2:00pm ET

TA WEBINAR: Case studies on implementing the new MPH curriculum

Friday, June 8

Spring Council Meeting

June 14-16

Visit the [CEPH Dates to Remember](#) page for the most up to date information.

CEPH wishes a happy retirement to John Conklin after 22 years of service

For more than 22 years, when you called the CEPH office, a pleasant and helpful voice greeted you on the other end of the line. John Conklin, the owner of that voice, retired from his position as CEPH's office manager on December 31.

John joined CEPH on September 1, 1995 as an Administrative Assistant



and was promoted several years later to office manager, handling all of CEPH's accounts payable and receivable, meeting planning, office administration and many human resources functions. He also kept track of all of the accreditation staff (no easy task!) so that our schools and programs would always have their questions answered as quickly as possible.

John's consistent presence at CEPH is an incredible accomplishment. The staff celebrated with John in December, and presented him with an award inscribed with the words "Loyalty, Friendship and Service" that describe John's contribution to our organization. John also received many, many cards from Council members and former Councilors, site visitors and other well-wishers who have worked with John over the years. He said that he really appreciated everyone's thoughtfulness.

John looks forward to sleeping in – he was always in the office before 7:00 am – watching classic movies and visiting family. He is also planning to



embark on a long overdue home re-decorating project.

While the rest of the staff will miss him personally and professionally, we are also excited for him as he begins a new chapter. He will always be an important part of our CEPH family.

CEPH hosts panel on new approaches to the MPH curriculum

On November 4, 2017, CEPH hosted a technical assistance session in conjunction with the American Public Health Association meeting in Atlanta, GA. The session presented five case studies from schools and programs on their new approaches to the MPH curriculum in the wake of changes in the field, including CEPH's adoption of the 2016 Accreditation Criteria. Approximately 70 individuals attended the session.

The presenters were as follow:

- Karen Goldsteen, MPH, PhD
University of North Dakota MPH Program
- Telisa Stewart, DrPH
Central New York MPH Program
- Kimberly Campbell-Voytal, PhD, MSN
Wayne State University MPH Program
- Kim Krytus, MSW, MPH, CPH
University at Buffalo – SUNY School of Public Health & Health Professions
- Jim Stimpson, PhD
CUNY School of Public Health

Each presenter described a unique set of adaptations and modifications to update MPH curricula. Some described maintaining a structure that includes courses in the five core public health disciplines and adjusting content within these courses. Some have taken this approach and also added new curricular requirements to supplement the existing core courses. Others have created new sets of courses required of all MPH students that are not structured around the historic core areas. Some presenters have increased the number of common credits required of all MPH students, regardless of concentration, while other presenters reduced the number of common credits.

Presenters shared challenges and successes, addressing faculty teamwork and "buy in," administrative structures and processes and student feedback, among other areas.

The session concluded with a lively question and answer session that engaged panelists and CEPH staff. The slides are available on the [CEPH website](#).

Based on the success of this panel, CEPH plans to include similar presentations in its technical assistance offerings in 2018. CEPH will offer a TA webinar, "[Case studies on implementing the new MPH curriculum](#)," on Friday, June 8th.

CEPH welcomes four new accreditation specialists

Alexandria DiOrio, Deja Jennings, Olivia Luzzi, and Megan Sisto have joined the CEPH staff as accreditation specialists. They will carry out tasks to ensure that the accreditation review process for schools and programs proceeds smoothly. Their duties include managing the accreditation review process, serving as on-site coordinator for accreditation site visits, editing and preparing sections of site visit team reports, developing training materials, conducting training sessions and responding to stakeholder inquiries.

Alexandra (Ali) received her MPH in community health from Arcadia University. During her time there, she served as a representative of the student body on the curriculum committee for the CEPH accreditation process. Before coming to CEPH, Ali was an analyst in the health insurance industry (Independence Blue Cross), where she ensured company and departmental compliance with ACA policies and coordinated audits of medical records. Currently, Ali is an adjunct professor at Arcadia University for epidemiology and program planning courses. Ali is a dog lover who played soccer in her college days.

Deja received her MPH in community health from Arcadia University. Before joining CEPH, Deja worked as a clinical research coordinator at Georgetown University where she recruited and screened potential student subjects, assisted in IRB submissions and assessed study feasibility. Additionally, Deja served as the research and evaluation intern at the Institute for Reproductive Health. In this role, she participated in social behavioral qualitative analysis in reproductive health education, intimate partner violence prevention and promotion of health gender roles for communal-based studies in Uganda. Deja was also the behavioral health and communication intern at Public Health Management Corporation. There she created and disseminated educational materials and composed role model stories for behavioral health programs and evaluated effectiveness of evidence-based findings for male-targeted teen pregnancy prevention programs. Deja has a love for all things Marvel and likes to spend free time reading for pleasure.

Olivia received her MPH in health services administration from East Tennessee State University. During her time there, Olivia worked as a graduate research assistant in the Health Services and Management Department, where she assisted faculty in grant writing, manuscript editing and data collection, cleaning and analysis. Olivia also served as the interim project coordinator on the *Choose Well South Carolina Initiative* for the External Evaluation Team at ETSU. While there she developed, piloted and administered a survey to study clinic practices surrounding contraceptive care in South Carolina. In her spare time, Olivia hangs out with her sassy cat, Mabel, and enjoys playing cards and board games with family.

Megan received her MPH in health promotion and behavioral sciences from San Diego State University. During her time there, Megan created, implemented and evaluated a health education program for secondary school students as part of

her thesis. Prior to joining CEPH, Megan was the employee wellness coordinator for the Sharp Best Health Department at Sharp HealthCare in San Diego, CA. In this role, she planned, operationalized and evaluated health and wellness programs for 18,000 employees throughout the Sharp HealthCare system. She also implemented employee health screenings and post-screening maintenance programs and helped to establish and maintain wellness committees at Sharp Hospital sites. As a new transplant to the East Coast, Megan is enjoying exploring the area and its history. She also loves to cook and enjoys 'chop therapy' cooking sessions at home.



Alexandria DiOrio, MPH



Deja Jennings, MPH



Olivia Luzzi, MPH



Megan Sisto, MPH, CHES

What's coming up for SBPs

CEPH now accredits nine standalone baccalaureate programs (SBPs)! Also, there are 13 SBP applicants. Many programs are working on their initial application submissions (IAS).

CEPH is expanding its outreach to SBPs in 2018 and is excited to announce a number of technical assistance opportunities for these programs in the first six months of the year. CEPH staff will be presenting at the following meetings:

- [ASPPH Undergraduate Summit](#)
March 7; Arlington, VA

- [SOPHE Annual Meeting](#)
April 4-6; Columbus, OH

Given that CEPH staff will be attending ASPPH, SBPs are invited to contact [Deja Jennings](#), to schedule an informal 30-minute sit-down during the ASPPH meeting on March 7-8. These sit-downs can be used to discuss the accreditation process and timeline or to answer program-specific questions.

We will also be providing SBP technical assistance (TA) webinars throughout the year. The first is the SBP Inquirer Webinar scheduled for Thursday,

March 22nd from 2-3:00pm ET. This webinar will detail the accreditation process, P-AOW and fee schedule. Current applicants and accredited SBPs will reflect on lessons learned. Programs can register for the TA sessions on the [CEPH website](#).

After two years of practice, the Council is getting ready to make the SBP criteria even more user friendly—stay tuned!

CEPH welcomes suggestions for additional TA sessions. If you have any topics you would like to see addressed via webinar, please contact [Olivia Luzzi](#).

CEPH staff present at ASPA

Kristen Varol, director of accreditation services, represented CEPH at the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors' (ASPA) fall 2017 meeting in Arlington, VA from September 10-12, 2017. This meeting's professional development

program focused on leading and implementing a criteria revision process.

Kristen presented as part of a panel on 'Implementation: collaboration and coaching for compliance' Her presentation addressed setting and communicating reasonable timelines for achieving compliance, identifying non-compliance and developing a plan to move forward. She also discussed how to provide support to schools and programs working to comply with new standards.

The presentation outlined CEPH's most recent criteria revision process, described the Council's approach to compliance reporting and highlighted the technical assistance opportunities available such as small-group consultations, conference workshops, webinars and video modules. Kristen emphasized the Council's priorities to 1) allow for flexibility, wherever possible, 2) provide consistent support and feedback, 3) communicate expectations early and often and 4) cultivate strong examples to share with others.



CEPH promotes three site visitors to serve as chairs of review teams

Three academic site visitors who have demonstrated exceptional knowledge of CEPH criteria and procedures and commitment to the accreditation process were trained to serve as site visit team chairs.

Chairs have additional responsibilities such as reviewing the preliminary self-study and approving the agenda for the days on site.

CEPH thanks these individuals for their continued service to the accreditation process:

- **David Gregorio, PhD, MS**
Director
Graduate Program in Public Health
University of Connecticut
- **Nils Hennig, MD, PhD, MPH**
Director
Graduate Program in Public Health
Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine
- **Jennifer Ibrahim, PhD, MPH, MA**
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
College of Public Health
Temple University



CEPH staff presenting at a site visitor training session

CEPH makes 19 accreditation decisions at fall 2017 meeting

The following schools and programs were granted initial accreditation

Teacher's College, Columbia University
MS in Community Health Education Program
Initial accreditation to December 31, 2022

Temple University
College of Public Health
Initial accreditation to December 31, 2022

Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville
Standalone Baccalaureate Program
Initial accreditation to December 31, 2022

California State University, San Bernardino
Public Health Program
Initial Accreditation to December 31, 2022

The following schools and programs were granted continued accreditation

Westminster College
MPH Program
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

Washington University in St. Louis
Public Health Program
Continued accreditation to December 31, 2024

San Francisco State University
Public Health Program
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

University of New Mexico
MPH Program
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

University of South Carolina
Arnold School of Public Health
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

Medical College of Wisconsin
MPH Program
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
Gillings School of Global Public Health
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

Harvard University
T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

University of Montana
Public Health Program
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

Claremont Graduate University
Public Health Program
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Sciences
MPH Program
Continued Accreditation to December 31, 2024

For a complete list of accredited schools and programs, visit CEPH's [website](#).



CEPH team at the Long Island University Brooklyn site visit



CEPH team at the Teacher's College, Columbia University site visit



CEPH team at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill site visit

Council welcomes new public member



Tiffany Hill, JD serves as a public member of CEPH's Board of Councilors. Tiffany, owner of TH Legal Consulting LLC, is an experienced employment and consumer law attorney. Her legal background includes employment as deputy district attorney in Nevada, assistant general counsel at Ohio University, in-house legal practice with Hammons Law Firm in Oklahoma as well as corporate legal experience as HR legal advisor for Paycom in Oklahoma. Tiffany holds a Patient and Protection Affordable Care Act certification and specializes in compliance issues, human resources training and policy development. As a legal consultant, she maintains knowledge of industry trends and employment legislation and uses those skills to minimize legal liability within organizations. Tiffany also utilizes her legal expertise as an advocate for increased awareness surrounding the issue of domestic violence. As an author, filmmaker and owner of TH Authentic LLC, she inspires survivors to move past the pain of domestic abuse into their authentic purpose. Tiffany also collaborates with national organizations to cultivate emerging young leaders through mentorship programs.

Tiffany earned her JD and Bachelor of Civil Law degrees from the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center and is licensed to practice law in Louisiana, Ohio and Oklahoma. Tiffany obtained her bachelor's degree in political science from Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA. Her professional and civic memberships include the Louisiana, Ohio and Oklahoma bar associations, the Society for Human Resource Management, the National Association of Professional Women, Women in Film and Television, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and The Links, Inc. Her board affiliations include the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (the specialized accreditation agency for counseling graduate programs), the American Psychological Association, Board of Educational Affairs and the YWCA Human Resources Committee.

Tiffany was appointed to the governing board of the Council on Education for Public Health in 2018 by APHA and ASPPH. Her current term extends through 2020.

CEPH hosts 2016 Criteria Workshop for schools and programs

On October 19-20, 2017, CEPH hosted the third in its series of comprehensive training sessions on the revised accreditation criteria. This workshop, based on CEPH's longstanding Accreditation Orientation Workshop (AOW), featured simultaneous sessions for representatives of accredited units, units pursuing initial accreditation and units preparing for the initial application submission (IAS).

Sessions covered CEPH procedures, focusing on the procedures most relevant to each group of stakeholders, but devoted the majority of the two-day agenda to a detailed examination of the expectations associated with each of the 51 criteria in CEPH's 2016 Accreditation Criteria for Public Health Schools and Programs.

The workshop also included a networking reception and



opportunities for school and program representatives to share challenges and insights with one another.

Over 100 individuals attended the workshop in Arlington, VA. Attendees came from 37 accredited programs and 21 accredited schools, as well as six applicant programs and 10 programs preparing for the IAS.

In addition, CEPH incorporated opportunities for one-hour "express consultations" with CEPH staff immediately before and after the workshop. CEPH staff reviewed draft materials, answered questions and provided detailed guidance, allowing stakeholders to explore unique or specific issues that were not applicable to the larger group.

CEPH will offer a similar format for its AOW offerings in March and July of 2018 and will incorporate sessions applicable to standalone baccalaureate programs in the July 2018 workshop.



Leading and fostering innovation in quality improvement

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) is an independent agency recognized by the US Department of Education to accredit schools of public health and public health programs offered in settings other than schools of public health. 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 other baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees are offered as well. Visit www.ceph.org for more information.

Keep up with what's 'Happening'

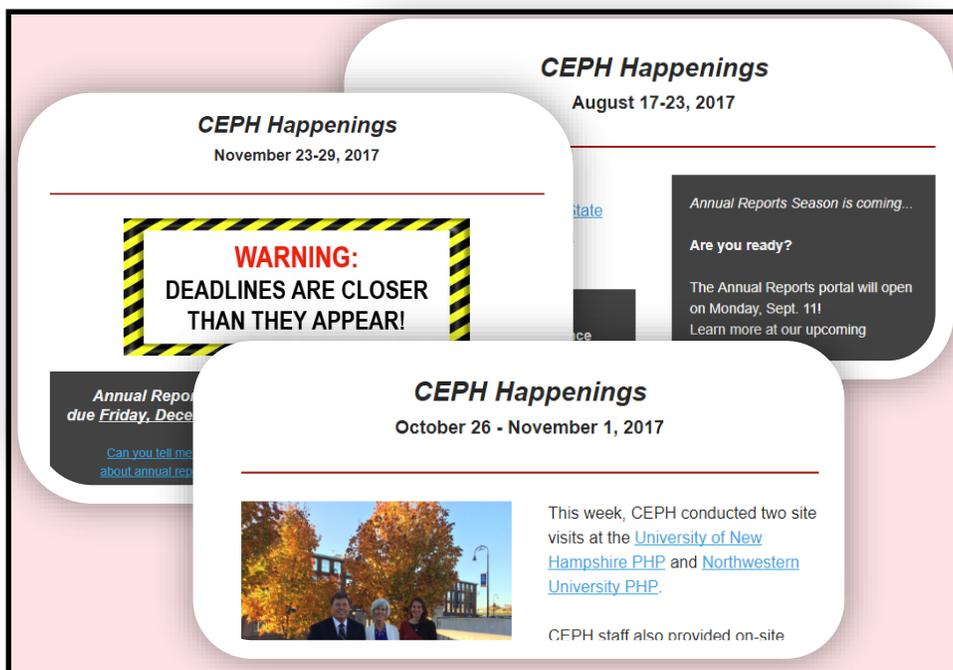
Every Wednesday, keep up with the goings-on at CEPH!

CEPH Happenings is a weekly email designed to keep stakeholders up to date with what's going on at CEPH.

Happenings is the best place to learn about upcoming events, including training opportunities, new online resources, suggested readings, accreditation activities and more!

Sign up to receive the weekly Happenings on the CEPH website!

You can also keep up to date with CEPH by following us on [Twitter](#) or joining us on [LinkedIn](#)!



Contact us

Laura Rasar King, MPH, MCHES
Executive Director
lking@ceph.org

Mollie Mulvanity, MPH
Deputy Director
mmulvanity@ceph.org

Kristen Varol, MPH, CHES
Director of Accreditation Services
kvarol@ceph.org

Nicole Williams, MPH
Communication Director &
Senior Accreditation Specialist
nwilliams@ceph.org

Alexandra DiOrio, MPH
Accreditation Specialist
adiorio@ceph.org

Deja Jennings, MPH
Accreditation Specialist
djennings@ceph.org

Olivia Luzzi, MPH
Accreditation Specialist
oluzzi@ceph.org

Alisha O'Connell, MPH
Accreditation Specialist
aocconnell@ceph.org

Megan Sisto, MPH, CHES
Accreditation Specialist
msisto@ceph.org

If you know of anyone who would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, [sign up online](#) or send an email to nwilliams@ceph.org.

**1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 220
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(202) 789-1050**