

MCH-EPI Graduate Certificate Program

The University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (UA, MEZCOPH), and the University of Kentucky College of Public Health (UK CPH) in partnership with representatives of IHS and the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) are offering a 14-credit online graduate certificate program aimed at increasing the capacity in MCH epidemiology of MCH professionals.

This certificate program will primarily target MCH workers serving in rural, isolated, and underserved Indian Health Service regions (USET) and Appalachian counties. These include counties in 21 states (AL, CT, GA, ME, LA, TN, KY, MS, FL, NH, PA, NY, NJ, MA, VT, MD, VA, WV, NC, SC, and TX)

This Certificate program is a **Fantastic Opportunity** for health care professionals who want to update and enhance their knowledge and skills in the development, implementation, and evaluation of MCH programs.

The Certificate program offers a curriculum in which students will acquire essential skills to addressing effectively maternal and child health population needs. Major learning skills will be:

- 1) In- depth understanding of the behavioral, biological, social, and environmental factors that influence health and illness in maternal and child populations.
- 2) Use of epidemiology tools for clinical or managerial decision-making.
- 3) Understand and conduct monitoring and evaluation of community-based MCH projects or programs.
- 4) How to conceptualize, develop, implement, and evaluate small-scale projects in MCH.
- 5) How to conduct basic epidemiological studies in reproductive and perinatal health and broad range of critical issues from the pre-conception, prenatal, delivery and post-natal periods.
- 6) Identify key components of project grant applications.
- 7) How to access federal, state, and local government MCH data systems on women, children and adolescents that help guide practice decisions and monitor program performance.
- 8) Identify strategies used to provide linguistically and culturally competent family-centered care, and analyze best practices in linguistic and cultural competence in the MCH field.
- 9) How to use leadership strategies to work effectively at a community, state or regional level in the capacity of designing and advocating for programs and policies necessary to promote the health of women, children and families.

The final requirement for the award of the Certificate would be an MCH Epidemiology Practicum that will give students an opportunity to apply research and management tools to the planning, development, and evaluation of MCH programs and policies.

This Certificate Program is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). Financial assistance for tuition and registration fee is available to a limited number of qualified students in MCH.

Certificate program will start the first week of June. Course *participants will have up to a year to complete the course*. Given the online nature of the course, participants from anywhere in the US around the world may sign up for individual courses that will show on their transcripts without being awarded a certificate. This will ensure that MCH professionals in the country may take targeted courses that meet their perceived areas deficiency without undertaking the full Certificate course. However, the Certificate can only be awarded upon completion of the required 14 credit hours.