



PROGRAM IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Master of Public Health Practicum Manual

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022



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Introduction

This document is intended to help guide you, the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree candidate, in selecting and completing the Practicum (i.e., the Applied Practice Experience) required by the Master of Public Health curriculum. It provides clear and concise information on the Practicum experience to guide you, your Faculty Supervisor, and Practicum Preceptor.

The Practicum is an essential part of the Master of Public Health curriculum and is intended to provide hands-on experience in the field of public health. The Practicum aims to provide you with opportunities to apply and test public health concepts and theories in practical settings and improve your learning related to the MPH Foundational and Concentration competencies. The Practicum accounts for three academic credits.

The Practicum must be conducted in partnership with an agency or organization (hereafter 'the Practicum Organization') that is providing a public health service, in the broad sense of public health. The Practicum Organization may be a public health department or a non-governmental agency. The Practicum process is overseen by the MPH Practicum Coordinator, who ensures that all requirements of the Practicum are met. For the purpose of the practicum, it is required that you develop a supervisory team, which will help you define, plan, and implement the Practicum. The team consists of a Faculty Supervisor, who is a Core MPH Faculty member, and a Preceptor, who works in the Practicum Organization.

Ethical and professional conduct is essential. As an individual training to be a public health professional, you are expected to conduct yourself ethically and professionally according to the standards of the *Program in Public Health*, Stony Brook University, and the Practicum Organization.

The purpose of the Practicum is to blend practical field experiences with academic learning. The Practicum is defined as the process and product resulting from a planned, supervised practical experience, strategically designed to provide an opportunity for you to support and apply your academic knowledge and acquired skills to a specific project in the public health arena.

**The Practicum must meet the mission of the student's MPH concentration:
Health Analytics, Health Policy & Management, or Community Health.**

The mission of each concentration is outlined below.

- **Health Analytics:** The mission of this concentration is to prepare public health professionals with the analytical, research, and statistical skills necessary to benchmark and evaluate health improvement initiatives in community and health care settings. Increasingly, the health field is challenged to adopt an evidence-based approach to preventing and treating disease and disability. The mission is considered met if the student applies research, statistical, and/or problem-solving skills that the Practicum Organization finds valuable or beneficial.
- **Health Policy & Management:** The mission of this concentration is to provide students with the policy background, knowledge, and skills that will be particularly useful in advancing careers involving management functions in health and healthcare-related organizations. Courses address health law and compliance, health finance and accounting, health economics and policy, and principles of health management.

- **Community Health:** The mission of this concentration is to prepare students for community-based work in public health. Students will acquire skills and knowledge related to planning, implementing, and evaluating community health improvement projects and interventions. They also will learn the principles of community-based participatory research and community engagement. The mission is considered met if the student performs a Practicum related to planning, implementing, or evaluating community health improvement projects or interventions for a Practicum Organization.

Master of Public Health Foundational and Concentration Competencies & the Practicum

The curriculum for the MPH degree is competency-based in order to comply with current efforts to improve the quality and accountability of graduate public health education and training.

Identifying competencies helps to ensure that public health programs achieve a workforce that can deliver the essential services of public health, which are to:

- Monitor the health status of the community
- Investigate and diagnose health problems and hazards
- Inform and educate people regarding health issues
- Mobilize partnerships to solve community problems
- Support policies and plans to achieve health goals
- Enforce laws and regulations to protect health and safety
- Link people to needed personal health services
- Ensure a skilled, competent public health workforce
- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of health services
- Research and apply innovative solutions

To ensure that all students have a broad understanding of the basic areas of public health, every student is required to complete all MPH Core courses satisfactorily. The MPH Core courses convey the CEPH-identified Foundational Competencies and concentration courses strengthen the MPH program-specific concentration competencies through associated Learning Experiences. You, the student, receive training in the five traditional public health core knowledge areas: biostatistics, environmental health, epidemiology, health policy and management, and the social and behavioral sciences, which inform the competencies. The Health Analytics, Health Policy & Management, and Community Health concentrations also have concentration-specific competencies and learning experiences. A complete list of the CEPH-identified Foundational Competencies and the PPH program-specific Concentration Competencies with Learning Experiences, can be found on our website at:

<http://www.stonybrookmedicalcenter.org/gpph/academics/competencies>.

You should choose a Practicum that is consistent with your career objectives and conducive to building professional relationships with relevant public health organizations. Thereafter, you should identify the Foundational and program-specific Concentration Competencies and related Learning Experiences that will be strengthened through the Practicum.

At least five competencies must be addressed during the Practicum experience. At least three must be Foundational Competencies and at least two must be Concentration Competencies.

Students in the MPH Health Policy and Management Concentration must work collaboratively with the Practicum Coordinator, preceptor, and PPH staff to ensure that their practicum is

comprehensively integrative in nature. Regardless of the two concentration competencies which are selected, the practicum must address the entire 20-point MHA/MPH HPM Concentration Competency Model.

By the time you are ready to begin your Practicum, you will have been introduced to and developed many of these skills or competencies through MPH coursework; many are addressed at least partially in more than one course. To assess your acquisition of these skills and to help determine your progress in developing as many public health competencies as possible, you must consider the competencies addressed throughout the entire Practicum process: from planning through the writing of the final Practicum Report.

Selecting a Practicum

Your consideration of a suitable Practicum topic and a Practicum Organization may begin with a conversation with a fellow student or faculty member, while reading a journal article, or sparked by circumstances in your workplace. You should develop and obtain feedback about your ideas from the Practicum Coordinator and the Practicum Placement and Community Engagement Coordinator, who can help focus the Practicum and suggest possible resources and sites. The topic you decide on should coincide with your own interests, concentration, and educational and career goals. For example,

- A student in the Health Analytics concentration may choose to perform an epidemiological investigation of a public health problem identified by the Practicum Organization as important to its goals, or perform statistical analyses using data collected by the Practicum Organization about a public health-related subject and report the results to the Organization when complete.
- Alternatively, a student whose concentration is Community Health may choose to design a health-related community intervention for the Practicum Organization. Design of a program would include identifying needed resources and activities and creating procedures, manuals, or educational materials. Another Community Health Practicum might lead to a student's implementation of a program already planned for the Practicum Organization or undertaking an evaluation of the Organization's existing public health programs to assess effectiveness and outcomes.
- The Health Policy & Management student might consider a Practicum like those listed above, or might choose to develop a health policy position paper or analyze the health characteristics of a community or defined population for the Practicum Organization.

Practicum Enrollment

- Permission to enroll in HPH 580 is at the discretion of the Practicum Coordinator. You should meet with the Practicum Coordinator and the Practicum Placement and Community Engagement Coordinator early in the planning of your Practicum project to facilitate development of the proposal and completion of the Practicum. They will help you to make sure that your proposal satisfies Practicum criteria.
- It is preferred that you enroll in HPH 580 in the semester in which you expect to complete the Practicum. If you register for HPH 580 and do not complete the Practicum in that semester, you must arrange with the Practicum Coordinator to receive an Incomplete, which will be substituted with a grade when you have fulfilled the requirements of the Practicum in a subsequent semester. Please **Practicum Grading** section for more information.

Practicum Time Commitment & Timing

Proposal Planning: You are expected to attend a Practicum Overview Session with the Practicum Coordinator and Practicum Placement and Community Engagement Coordinator. Sessions will be scheduled each fall semester.

Practicum Time Commitment: You must complete a minimum of 135 hours on the Practicum project, and this work can be performed in a short period of time or be carried out over a period that spans more than one semester. The timeline developed for your Practicum Proposal will describe how you, your Preceptor, and your Faculty Supervisor have agreed to time the key facets of the work. You may spend all 135 hours at the Practicum Organization or perform the work of the Practicum outside the organizational setting, depending upon the needs of your project.

Practicum Timing:

- If you are a full-time MPH student (i.e., you plan to complete coursework requirements for the MPH degree in 18 months to two years), you should begin planning your Practicum no later than two semesters prior to when you intend to graduate, with the goal of implementing your Practicum in the semester immediately prior to graduation.
- If you are a part-time MPH student (i.e., you are attending the Program on a part-time basis, including MD or DDS students), you should consider starting your Practicum after you have completed the MPH Core Courses, or after you have obtained written approval from the Practicum Coordinator, who will consult first with your Faculty Supervisor.
- If you are working full-time, you should investigate with your employer ways to accommodate the time needed to devote to the Practicum. You may need to negotiate the use of vacation time, a flexible work schedule, or other arrangement with your employer. Consider whether you will need Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for your project. This requires an application to the Committees on Research Involving Human Subjects (CORIHS). If you need CORIHS approval, you will need to adjust your timeline appropriately since obtaining approval from CORHIS usually takes several months.

Conducting your practicum at your regular place of employment

You may conduct your Practicum in your regular place of employment if it is an acceptable Organization for the purposes of Practicum. You may do this as long as the Practicum extends beyond (i.e., does not include) your normal job duties and you do not receive any type of compensation for it.

Practicum Requirements

See **Appendix A: Suggested Sequence and Checklist**

See **Appendix B (separate document): Practicum Forms**

- Form A: Memo to Preceptor (to be signed by Preceptor)
- Form B: Practicum Team Information
- Form C: Practicum Proposal (to be signed by Preceptor, Student, and Faculty Advisor)
- Form D: Practicum Logbook
- Form E: Interim Practicum Review (if applicable)
- Form F-1: Preceptor's Evaluation
- Form F-2: Supplemental Preceptor's Evaluation (required for MPH HPM students only)
- Practicum Final Report, minimum of two Deliverables (as described in Form C: Practicum Proposal), copy of poster for the PPH Scholarly Exhibition.

- Practicum Reflection
- For MPH HPM students only: Participation in three Zoom sessions related to health management competencies
- Form G: Faculty Supervisor's Evaluation
- Form H: Student's Evaluation

Practicum Proposal

Once you have selected a topic or project for your Practicum, you must write a Practicum Proposal. The proposal must be typed onto *Form C: Practicum Proposal*, and approved and signed by your Preceptor, Faculty Supervisor, and Practicum Coordinator. **You are expected to submit a draft of your proposal to the Practicum Coordinator no later than six weeks from the time you have registered for Practicum.**

The Practicum Proposal must contain all of the following elements:

- Background
- Project Description
- Goals & Objectives
- Competencies Addressed
- Resources (if applicable)
- Timeline

See **Appendix C: Practicum Proposal Outline** for more information.

Practicum Final Report & Deliverables

The practicum final report is a concise summary (in the past tense) of why the work was done, the goals and objectives, the methods by which these were achieved and evaluated, related products that were created, results (link each of the results to the specific goals/objectives, in a systematic manner), a discussion of the impact of the practicum activity, and recommendations for future activities to the sponsoring organization and/or the field, and/or research. If there were any deviations from the plan as described in the proposal (such as changes in methods, timeline, or other modifications), these should be noted in the final report as well with a discussion of why modifications were necessary.

The Practicum Final Report must contain all of the following elements:

- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion and Conclusions
- Reference List
- Appendices (Two or more Deliverables, poster)
- Evaluation of the Practicum

See **Appendix D: Final Practicum Report Outline** for more information.

As a requirement outlined by CEPH, at least two products or “deliverables” must be included in your practicum portfolio. **The practicum "products" or “deliverables” should be placed in an appendix (as noted above), and referred to within the content of the final report.** One of the deliverables can be a slide set prepared as a distillation of the final report and presented to the practicum organization. The poster prepared for the PPH Scholarly Exhibition does not count as a deliverable.

Practicum Grading

Upon successful completion of the course requirements of the Practicum, you will receive academic credit that will apply toward fulfilling the MPH degree requirements. The Practicum is

graded. The Practicum grade is determined by your Faculty Supervisor and reflects your performance throughout the practicum activity, which includes meeting stated goals and objectives and attainment of your stated competencies. The quality of your proposal, your Preceptor's evaluation, your faculty supervisor's evaluation, your self-evaluation, and your Practicum final report and deliverables are also considered in your grade.

Please note that you are expected to complete the Practicum by the end of the semester you are enrolled in Capstone.

If you have not completed all requirements for the practicum by the end of the semester for which you have enrolled in HPH 580 Practicum, you will receive an incomplete. Students are given until their final semester enrolled in the program to complete the requirements, and the incomplete will be changed to a letter grade. It is important that the practicum results in deliverables that are timely and, therefore, useful to the practicum organization. If six months after your expected graduation date (November 30 for May graduates, February 28 for August graduates, and June 30 for December graduates) requirements are not, the final grade will be reduced by one letter grade for every four weeks past the deadline unless the student presents a justification for the delay that's agreed to by the preceptor. Students who fail practicum because of unexcused delay will have the opportunity to repeat HPH 580, and the degree date will be adjusted to reflect the new date.

Relationship of Practicum to Capstone Seminar

The Practicum is distinct from the MPH Capstone Course (HPH 581), with each course earning three academic credits. An approved Practicum should precede the MPH Capstone Course since you will learn how to write an abstract and develop an effective poster presentation based on your Practicum project as part of your MPH Capstone Course requirements.

Practicum Presentation Event

All students are required to present the poster developed during Capstone at the annual PPH Scholarly Exhibition held during the Spring semester.

Practicum Waivers

The practicum is a CEPH requirement for graduation from our accredited program. No waivers of the Practicum requirement will be considered.

Responsibilities of the Student, Practicum Coordinator, Practicum Placement and Community Engagement Coordinator, Assistant Director for Student Affairs, Preceptor and Faculty Supervisor

Student

You are responsible for identifying a Preceptor, developing the Practicum Proposal to the satisfaction of the Preceptor and Faculty Supervisor, ensuring the completion and delivery to the Practicum Coordinator of all forms required for the Practicum, completing the Practicum deliverables that were described in the Practicum Proposal, and presenting your practicum at the PPH Practicum Event.

Upon approaching a potential Practicum Organization and Preceptor, you must provide that person with *Form A: Memo to Preceptor*, which is to be signed and returned to the Practicum Coordinator. When you have selected a Practicum topic and team, you will complete *Form B: Practicum Team Information* and *Form C: Practicum Proposal*, which requires the signature of

your Preceptor and Faculty Supervisor. You will submit these forms to the Practicum Coordinator for signature.

You should meet regularly with your Preceptor and Faculty Supervisor during your Practicum. Review progress and problem-solve as necessary. Adjust your Practicum goals, objectives, and/or timeline, if necessary. **Complete Form E: Interim Practicum Review only if the Practicum changes substantially from your approved proposal.** Submit the completed *Form E* to the Practicum Coordinator.

When the Practicum project is complete:

(a) submit a copy of the deliverables to your Preceptor, along with *Form F: Preceptor's Evaluation*.

(b) submit a copy of your deliverables, your final report, your completed Preceptor's Evaluation, your completed *Form H: Student's evaluation*, and *Form G: Faculty Supervisor's Evaluation* to your Faculty Supervisor.

(c) Submit *all* final practicum paperwork to the Practicum Coordinator.

Practicum Coordinator, Practicum Placement and Community Engagement Coordinator and Assistant Director for Student Affairs

The Practicum Coordinator, Practicum Placement and Community Engagement Coordinator, and Assistant Director for Student Affairs have the following responsibilities:

- Provide you with a copy of the Practicum Manual and all required Practicum Forms.
- If needed, meet with you to brainstorm possible Practicum projects.
- Provide a list of possible Practicum Organizations with contact persons.
- Provide information on the IRB/CORIHS process, if necessary.
- Help you identify a Faculty Supervisor for your Practicum.
- Communicate with your Preceptor to establish an agreement with the Practicum Organization that will allow you to complete the Practicum at that site, in the form of a memorandum of understanding or detailed letter that will serve as such.
- Intercede on your behalf where necessary to clarify your and your Preceptor's roles and facilitate understanding and agreement as to goals, conduct, commitment, and deliverables.
- Ensure that all requirements of the Practicum are met.
- Ensure that you receive a grade for HPH 580.

Preceptor

The Preceptor should be a skilled practitioner willing to serve as the student's mentor and guide, providing practical experience and supervision for the Practicum project. The Preceptor has the following responsibilities:

- Be engaged in work that will help you fulfill the requirements of the Practicum.
- Provide an overview of the Practicum Organization, including its organizational composition and mode(s) of operation, mission, goals, and activities, and target population(s).
- Orient you to Practicum Organization policies and procedures relevant to your work with the organization
- Provide necessary organizational resources for the project, including any pertinent reports.
- Allot adequate time to spend with you and provide periodic and timely feedback and guidance to you through regularly scheduled meetings, formal evaluation, and/or other means outlined in your Practicum Proposal.

- Review and comment on your Practicum deliverables through completion of *Form F-1: Preceptor's Evaluation* and *Form F-2: Supplemental Preceptor's Evaluation (for MPH HPM Concentration students only)*.

Faculty Supervisor

The Faculty Supervisor for your Practicum should have expertise and interest in your Practicum topic, and provide practical and academic guidance to you. The Faculty Supervisor has the following responsibilities:

- Meet with you during the Practicum planning phase to discuss possible opportunities and help you to choose a project that will be most suitable for your educational goals.
- Help you set attainable goals and objectives for the Practicum, and establish a realistic timeline.
- Review your practicum proposal and approve the final version.
- Meet with you regularly to discuss progress and help resolve any problems as you conduct the work of your Practicum, and advise you on adjusting your Practicum goals, objectives, and/or timeline, if necessary.
- Assure the quality of the Practicum final report and deliverables.
- Review your Practicum final report and deliverables, *Form F: Preceptor's Evaluation*, *Form G: Faculty Supervisor Evaluation* and *Form H: Student's Evaluation*, evaluate your performance on your practicum, assess competency attainment, and grade your Practicum.

Appendix A: Suggested Sequence and Checklist

Summer/Fall Prior to Practicum

- Identify Project and Preceptor, submit *Memo to Preceptor* and *Team Information*
- Schedule meeting with Practicum Faculty Advisor
- Attend a Practicum Overview Session with Practicum Coordinator
- Complete Proposal Paperwork
- Proposal* to be reviewed by Practicum Faculty Advisor
- Approved Proposal* reviewed and signed by Faculty Advisor, Preceptor, and Practicum Coordinator
- Enroll in Capstone, permission provided by Assistant Director for Student Affairs

During Practicum work and enrollment in Capstone

- Interim meetings with Faculty Advisor
- Submit *Interim Practicum Review* (if applicable)
- Prepare Practicum presentation in Capstone
- Presentation for PPH Practicum Event

When Practicum is Complete

- Final Report and deliverables to be reviewed by Practicum Faculty Supervisor
- Preceptor to complete *Preceptor's Evaluation(s)*
- Faculty Supervisor to complete *Faculty Evaluation*
- Submit *Logbook*
- Submit *Final Report*, reflection, and deliverables

Appendix B: MPH Practicum Forms

The following forms must be completed for the Practicum and submitted to the Practicum Coordinator:

- *Form A: Memo to Preceptor*
 - To be given to Preceptor before Practicum Proposal is written, signed by Preceptor and returned to Practicum Coordinator
- *Form B: Practicum Team Information*
 - To be completed and submitted by the student to the Practicum Coordinator
- *Form C: Practicum Proposal*
 - To be completed and approved by the student's Faculty Supervisor, Preceptor, and the Practicum Coordinator within 6 weeks of registration in HPH 580
- *Form D: Practicum Logbook*
 - To be completed, signed by the Preceptor, and submitted by the student to the Practicum Coordinator with the Practicum deliverable(s), in order to receive a grade for HPH 580
- *Form E: Interim Practicum Review (If applicable)*
 - To be completed and submitted by the student to the Practicum Coordinator midway through the Practicum if the Practicum extends for more than one semester.
- *Form F-1: Preceptor's Evaluation*
 - To be completed and submitted by the Preceptor to the Practicum Coordinator (student provides stamped envelope) when the Practicum deliverable(s) are completed, in order to receive a grade for HPH 580
- *Form F-2: Supplemental Preceptor's Evaluation (required for MPH HPM students only)*
 - To be completed and submitted by the Preceptor to the Practicum Coordinator (MPH HPM student provides stamped envelope) when the Practicum deliverable(s) are completed, in order to receive a grade for HPH 580
- *Form G: Faculty Evaluation*
 - To be completed and submitted by the Faculty Supervisor to the Practicum Coordinator when the Practicum deliverable(s) are completed
- *Form H: Student's Evaluation*
 - To be completed by the student and submitted to the Practicum Coordinator with the Practicum deliverable(s) and *Practicum Final Report*, in order to receive a grade for HPH 580.

All forms must be typed. If you have any questions about the Practicum's purpose and process, please contact the Practicum Coordinator:

Michele Bayley, MPH
Practicum Coordinator
Master of Public Health Degree Program
Stony Brook University
HSC, Level 3, Room 075A
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8338
631-216-8719 (phone)
631-444-7525 (fax)

Appendix C: Practicum Proposal Outline

Background

The Practicum Proposal should contain a Background section, which will:

- Describe the public health service that your Practicum Organization provides.
- Identify the Practicum Organization's problem, question, or issue related to this public health service that your Practicum will address (the "what").
- Identify the importance of the problem, question, or issue to the Practicum Organization (the "why").
- Describe your Preceptor's role in providing the public health service and relationship to the problem, question, or issue the Practicum will address (the "who").
- Discuss how the Practicum relates to the mission of your concentration: Health Analytics, Community Health, or Health Policy & Management.

Project Description

The Practicum Proposal should summarize what the Practicum is intended to accomplish and how you plan to go about this. Describe how you will address or answer the problem, question, or issue (the "how"). As a part of the description, be sure to include sections on the methods, data sources (and procedures to access these data sources if not publicly available), and measures you will use to complete the Practicum.

Goals & Objectives

The Practicum Proposal should state the goal(s) for the Practicum and the associated objectives. Your goal(s) and objectives will be the basis for evaluating your performance during the Practicum.

Goals are broad, generalized statements about what you want to achieve, the "targets" to be reached. Objectives are the steps you take to reach your goal(s). Objectives should be SMART: specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-limited. Each objective should begin with an active verb, for example, identify, define, develop, investigate, prepare, write. "The goal is where we want to be. The objectives are the steps needed to get there."

One of the objectives must identify the "products" or "deliverables" of the Practicum, for example, a research report, program implementation plan, program evaluation plan, community health curriculum. One of the objectives (i.e. deliverable) can be a presentation to the relevant audience for the Practicum project, which will usually be within the Practicum Organization.

If Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval is required to complete the Practicum, one of the objectives will be to complete the application to the Committees on Research Involving Human Subjects (CORIHS), the University's on-site IRB, with responsibility for protecting the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in research. See the Stony Brook University Office of Research Compliance website for information about conducting research at Stony Brook University and the compliance-related forms needed to apply for IRB approval of research projects at: <https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/research-compliance/Human-Subjects/index.php>.

Competencies Addressed

The Practicum Proposal must identify the Competencies which will be strengthened through the Practicum experience. **At least five competencies, of which at least three must be CEPH-identified Foundational Competencies, must be addressed during the Practicum experience. The remaining two competencies may be concentration competencies*.**

*Special Note for students in the MPH in Health Policy and Management Concentration:
Regardless of the two concentration competencies which are selected, the practicum must address and develop the entire CAHME/HPM Concentration Competency Model.

In addition, HPM Concentration students are required to attend three Zoom sessions with a qualified health management subject matter expert to review the integrative application of the 20-point MHA/MPH HPM Concentration Competency Model to their practicum experience

Resources Required (if applicable)

Timeline

The Practicum Proposal must include a timeline that estimates how long it will take to complete each objective, including the two or more “products” or “deliverables” of the Practicum. Include an estimate of the number of hours that it will take to complete each step in the process, which will total to a minimum of 135 hours (equivalent to 3 credits).

Appendix D: Final Practicum Report and Evaluation of Practicum

The major narrative divisions of the practicum final report are described below:

As a requirement outlined by CEPH, at least two “deliverables” or “products” must be included in your practicum portfolio. One deliverable can be a presentation (slide set) to the relevant audience for the Practicum project, which will usually be within the Practicum Organization. The major narrative divisions of the practicum final report are described below:

Introduction

Describes why the work was done. Describe the problem or need on which the practicum was based, the historical background of this problem or need, and any earlier efforts made for addressing the problem. An important aspect of the **Introduction** is a review of the pertinent literature. Few problems or needs are unique: many have already been investigated or planned, and it is helpful to find how this was accomplished, what alternatives were tried or considered, and what the results were.

Methods

The methods section includes a complete description of methods and procedures used in the practicum, to carry out the goals and objectives. Credit should be given to individuals who developed the methods, procedures, tests, or concepts you will employ by means of literature citation. Goals and behavioral objectives, strategies utilized, implementation difficulties encountered, computational techniques employed, and criteria used to evaluate are described and discussed in this section.

Results

This section describes the results and findings of the problem or the effectiveness of a developed or implemented program, however tentative they may be.

Discussion and Conclusions

The most important function of this section is to link the results of the practicum to your original problem or proposed program. All conclusions and recommendations resulting from the practicum are discussed in this subsection. They should be discussed in terms of their implications for the problem or program that originally motivated the work. For example – returning to the earlier example of developing a procedures manual – the original problem might have been recurring procedural failures within the institution. You will then discuss the manual you developed (your “results”) in terms of its ability to prevent or mitigate such failures. For example, reflecting on the problem and proposed solution, do you have suggestions to the Practicum Organization regarding the tools they provided to you? Any limitations on the interpretation of the findings or obstacles in program development or evaluation are also discussed in this section.

Reference List

Use APA referencing style to provide proper citations.

Appendices (Deliverables)

Include ALL products developed or created for your practicum. These can include all data collection tools/measures (such as surveys, questionnaires, or chart abstraction tools), summaries of primary data (not raw data), other products (training manuals, Education projects I curricular materials, including objectives, teaching strategies, evaluations, and related

instructional aids, PowerPoint presentations, flyers, reports to the sponsoring agency) and other relevant materials, etc. developed, used or evaluated in the project. The appendices provide a copy of the final deliverables or products, which must be properly labeled and referenced in the body of the final report. There is no limit to the number of appendices included in the final report.

Evaluation of the Practicum

Please write a 2- to 3-page reflection of your practicum experience. You should reflect on the following:

- a. Overall, how would you rate your Practicum experience? Please explain your response.
- b. If you had the opportunity to do the practicum over again, would you approach the project the same or differently? Explain.
- c. Reflecting on the competencies you selected in your Practicum Proposal, do you feel the attainment of those competencies has been strengthened through this practicum? Explain your response.
- d. How would you rate the supervision of your Preceptor? Please explain your response.
- e. What impact, if any, do you anticipate your practicum experience will have on your practicum placement organization? Explain your response.
- f. What impact, if any, do you anticipate your practicum experience will have on your career path? Explain your response.
- g. What recommendations do you have to Master of Public Health's faculty/staff to help prepare for or improve the practicum experience?