

## **Public Health Certificate Program**

### ***Public Health Training Certificate in American Indian Health***

#### **Program Overview**

The Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health (Center) has established a graduate-level *Public Health Training Certificate in American Indian Health* through its parent institution, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The certificate program is designed to promote participants' capacity to address American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) population health disparities through multidisciplinary public health approaches and culturally relevant strategies. The target audience for the certificate includes AI/AN scholars, health leaders and professionals and paraprofessionals serving AI/AN communities or similar populations. Course faculty includes experts in American Indian health from across the nation.

The certificate will be offered on both a credit and non-credit basis. Students applying for the credit certificate program must have successfully completed a Bachelors degree with a 2.5 GPA or higher. Students enrolled for the non-credit certificate program must have completed a minimum of: Sixty credit hours of baccalaureate level courses or equivalent AND two years work experience (or equivalent) in public health or health-related field.

The total certificate is comprised of a 16-credit offering, comprised of 7 courses designed by the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health. The 16-credits (if taken for academic credit) can be applied toward the MPH and MHS degrees at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. The course content addresses key areas of current public health concern for AI tribes and is designed to confer a core set of basic public health competencies. Participants enrolled in the certificate programs will be encouraged to complete the offerings within 2 years, and will be required to complete all course work within 3 years of joining the program.

#### **Course Offerings and Schedule**

##### **An Interdisciplinary Approach to Understanding the Health of American Indians**

An interdisciplinary approach is taken to understand different aspects of American Indian health. The course will explore health and illness perceptions of American Indian cultures, and consider approaches that blend American Indian healing with Western or orthodox methods. Course participants will learn to view a priority health issue from the perspective of Native communities, and through the lens of various disciplines such as epidemiology, anthropology, mental health, political science/policy, and sociology. The over-arching emphasis of the institute will be on working at the front line with American Indian communities to help them solve their own problems using culturally sensitive interventions. **(3 credits)**

##### **Using Mass Media for Health Promotion in Native Communities**

The mass media for health promotion in Native Communities course is designed to train students in developing a mass media campaign directed at health promotion within tribal communities. Students will be introduced to the basics of how to develop and design an effective media campaign. Students acquire skills in developing a media campaign that targets key messages related to identified health needs; understand the components of developing web pages; and develop a web page to educate the public on the area of health concern identified in the needs assessment linking it to the previously developed media campaign. **(2 credits)**

##### **Collecting, Analyzing, and Using Public Health Data in American Indian Communities**

An introduction for persons who might not have had previous formal training in epidemiology or biostatistics, but might be working to determine or to address tribal priorities for health care, or working/interested in, clinical research or public health within tribal communities. This course prepares students for the core epidemiology and biostatistics courses offered by the School of Public Health. Course participants will learn how to collect, analyze and use community data to address public health problems. Participants are asked to work on datasets from tribal communities to apply the principles taught. **(3 credits)**

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**Introduction to American Indian Health Research Ethics**

The objective of this course is to increase participants' awareness of and ability to reason through ethical issues that arise relating to human subjects research in American Indian communities. This course explores the unique ethical principles and regulatory requirements related to conducting research in Indian communities. Special attention is given to historical and cultural considerations pertaining to health research within tribal nations. **(2 credits)**

**Introduction to Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods**

The overarching goal of the course is to provide a basic overview of qualitative and quantitative research methods and the different applications of each to a variety of different public health interventions. Readings, lectures and labs explore different research methods and the process of selecting the appropriate method to design and implement a variety of public health interventions. Topics covered in the course include: focus groups, in-depth interviews, comparison designs, intervention designs, and randomized controlled trials. Students will work to gain a basic understanding of these research methods and apply them to existing projects on which they are working. **(2 credits)**

**Introduction to Data Management Using American Indian Health Data**

The Introduction to Data Management using American Indian Health Data course is an introductory level course for students interested in the fundamental tools of public health research. This course focuses specifically on the principles of data management, including: development of data flow diagrams; development of data collection forms, data dictionaries, and related documentation; fundamentals of database design; methods of data capture; data validation and methods of quality assurance; and principles of data security. Students will work with American Indian Health data sets to apply skills learned throughout the course. Student evaluation is based on class participation, short assignments, and daily quizzes. **(2 credits)**

**Mental Health Care and Delivery in American Indian Communities**

This course focuses on the status, needs, availability, and outcomes for mental health treatment and services to American Indians and Alaska Natives. Ways to improve services currently available and the need to promote wellness are among key issues stressed. The learning objectives of the course include: 1) to examine the complexities of mental health care for the American Indian and Alaska Native communities; 2) to identify high-need populations and assess the availability and quality of services available for those populations; and 3) to gain information on ways to help prevent mental illness and promote wellness among the communities studied. **(2 credits)**

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**Course Schedule**

Course Number	Course Title	Institute Course Offering	Credits
221.667	An Interdisciplinary Approach to Understanding the Health of American Indians	Winter* (each year)	3
221.671	Introduction to Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods	Summer 2008, 2010	2
221.672	Introduction to Data Management Using American Indian Health Data	Summer 2008, 2010	2
221.673	Mental Health Care and Delivery in American Indian Communities	Winter 2009, 2011	2
221.666	Introduction to American Indian Health Research Ethics	Summer 2009, 2011	2
221.670	Collecting, Analyzing and Using Public Health Data in American Indian Communities	Summer 2009, 2011	3
221.668	Using Mass Media for Health Promotion in American Indian Communities	Winter 2010, 2012	2

\* Also offered 4<sup>th</sup> term via internet-based course



## **Program Application: Public Health Training Certificate in American Indian Health**



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621 N. Washington Street, Baltimore, MD 21205 \* tel 410.955.6931 \* fax 410.955.2010

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Certificate Program is designed to develop capacity to address American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) health disparities through multidisciplinary public health approaches and culturally relevant strategies. The target audience for this Certificate includes AI/AN scholars, health leaders and professionals and paraprofessionals serving AI/AN communities. Course faculty includes experts in AI health from across the nation.

The Program is comprised of seven courses designed and facilitated by CAIH faculty. Course content addresses key areas of public health concern for AI/AN tribes, and delivers a core set of basic public health competencies. The Certificate can be earned on a for-credit or non-credit basis. Participants earning credit will earn a total of 16 credits, which can be applied toward MPH and MHS degree programs at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. All Program participants will be encouraged to complete the offerings within an 18 month period, and required to complete all coursework within 3 years of enrolling.

### **REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS**

#### Credit Certificate:

- Students applying for the Certificate Program for academic credit must have successfully completed a Bachelors degree
- Must have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.5 in prior degree program

#### Non-Credit Certificate:

- Students applying for the Certificate Program on a non-credit basis must have completed a minimum of 60 credit hours of baccalaureate level courses or equivalent, AND two years work experience (or equivalent) in public health or related health science field.

### **APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

- \_\_\_ Completed and signed application
- \_\_\_ Resume or curriculum vitae
- \_\_\_ Official transcripts
- \_\_\_ Personal statement (see Section 6 of this application for details)
- \_\_\_ Two letters of recommendation and two completed recommendation forms with at least one from a faculty advisor detailing your strengths, interests, aspirations, etc
- \_\_\_ \$45 Application Fee (payable with check or money order, to "Johns Hopkins University")

#### **Return application to:**

Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health  
**ATTN: Training and Scholarship Program**  
621 N. Washington Street  
Baltimore, MD 21205  
Fax 410.955.2010

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact the Center's Training Coordinator at 410-955-6931.

**Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health  
Public Health Training Certificate in American Indian Health**



**Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health  
Registration/Application Form**



Please read the instructions carefully and complete the application in full. Incomplete applications will not be processed. Award/acceptance notices will be made in writing and mailed to the preferred address given on this application. Please note: Admission to or academic performance in does not guarantee admission to the School's full or part-time academic degree programs. **Please type if possible, or print in black ink.**

**SECTION 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please print or type)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle Initial Male/Female*

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Tribe \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Legal Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*City State Zip*

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*City State Zip*

Preferred Mailing Address:  Home  Work

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 2: ACADEMIC SUMMARY (Most recent first)**

<i>School</i>	<i>Area of Concentration</i>	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Year Rec'd</i>

**SECTION 3: PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY (Most recent first)**

1.	<i>Employer</i>	<i>Position/Title</i>
	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Dates</i>
2.	<i>Employer</i>	<i>Position/Title</i>
	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Dates</i>
3.	<i>Employer</i>	<i>Position/Title</i>
	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Dates</i>

**SECTION 4: HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS (Most recent first)**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>

**SECTION 5: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

*Include school and community activities. Please indicate the school year(s) in which you participated in each activity.*

<i>From MM/YY To MM/YY</i>	<i>Description</i>

## SECTION 6: PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please compose and attach an original essay that describes how you became interested in a health career with AI/AN communities and demonstrates your commitment to improving the health of AI/AN peoples. Discuss your background (including community involvement, leadership roles and achievements), academic and professional goals, and illustrate how receiving this scholarship (or how being accepted into this program if you are applying for the Public Health Certificate in American Indian Health) will assist you in your goals and in improving the health of AI/AN communities.

Be sure to tailor your statement to the scholarship or program you are applying to. It is your first opportunity to demonstrate your writing skills to our faculty, so take care to submit a concise and well-constructed essay. Statements must be **current** and must be between two and three double-spaced pages, with your name on each page. Please note that you may not reuse a personal statement previously submitted to the Center for any scholarship application.

Our Admissions Committee understands that types of background experiences and academic performance are unique to each applicant and may vary widely from individual to individual. If you feel that our current application does not otherwise provide an opportunity for you to share details about your full potential as a promising or continuing health leader for the AI/AN community, please clarify in this essay.

Your essay will be evaluated on the strength of how well the following are demonstrated:

- Commitment to improving AI/AN communities/health evident in background
- Commitment to improving AI/AN communities/health evident in academic/professional goals
- Experience in leadership roles in AI/AN communities
- Potential for future leadership roles in AI/AN communities
- Clear vision of how scholarship/program will be used to improve AI/AN communities/health
- Overall potential for success in program/course

## SECTION 7: JHU AFFILIATION (complete *only* if you are currently affiliated with JHU)

Alumnus  Employee  Attended Continuing Education Course  Not currently affiliated with JHU

Are you currently a degree-seeking student at The Johns Hopkins University?  Yes  No

School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Program \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently an MPH candidate at JHSPH?  Yes  No

Are you currently a DrPH candidate at JHSPH?  Yes  No

## SECTION 8: FINANCIAL NEED\*

\*Complete ONLY if you are applying for a Scholarship. SKIP if you are applying to a Program.

Please list all other scholarships you have applied for. What are the award amounts, and what is the status (i.e. haven't heard back, award granted, etc.).

**SECTION 9: COURSE SELECTION and CREDIT/NON-CREDIT STATUS**

\*Complete ONLY if you are applying to a Program. SKIP if you are applying for a Scholarship.  
It must be indicated on the application whether or not courses are to be taken for academic credit. Academic Credit is \$815 per credit, and Non-Credit is \$600 per non-credit. Please check your selection:

- An Interdisciplinary Approach to Understanding the Health of American Indians (3 credits) 221.667, January 4 – January 8, 2010
  - Academic Credit (\$2,445.00)
  - Non-Credit (\$1,800.00)
  
- Using Mass Media for Health Promotion in American Indian Communities (2 credits) 221.668, January 11 – January 15, 2010
  - Academic Credit (\$1,630.00)
  - Non-Credit (\$1,200.00)

**SECTION 10: AFFIRMATION OF ACCURATE INFORMATION**

I affirm that the information on this application form, and on any additional material that I submit related thereto, is complete, accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that furnishing any false, misrepresented or incomplete information in any of my application materials may be cause for denial or revocation of scholarship award, admission, registration or academic credit. I understand that any materials submitted related to my application become the property of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and cannot be returned or forwarded to a third party. I understand that the decision made on my application is final and not subject to appeal.

Finally, I agree that if accepted into an academic Program, I will adhere to all rules and regulations applicable to students of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, including but not limited to the Student Conduct Code and Student Honor Code.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For questions regarding registration and payment, please email [sslimited@jhsph.edu](mailto:sslimited@jhsph.edu).

For questions regarding course information, please email [dtsingin@jhsph.edu](mailto:dtsingin@jhsph.edu).

**Submit completed application form and all supporting documentation by mail or fax to address below. You may also email all documentation to the email address below with a cc to [dtsingin@jhsph.edu](mailto:dtsingin@jhsph.edu).**

**Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Summer Institute Office  
621 N. Washington Street  
Baltimore, MD 21205  
Fax: (410) 955-2010  
Email: [dtsingin@jhsph.edu](mailto:dtsingin@jhsph.edu)**