The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Public Health Informatics Certificate Training Program
Tuition Subsidies Available*

Application Deadline March 15, 2012

Public Health Workers in the Community Encouraged to Apply

(For Release: December 5, 2011)

Targeting public health professionals, The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Schools of Medicine and Nursing and the Public Health Data Standards Consortium (PHDSC), is pleased to announce that the **Public Health Informatics Training Program** is accepting applications**.** This program results in a Maryland State-approved Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Public Health Informatics.

The goal of the program is to offer training in methods and concepts of health informatics and health information technology for application to public health. It is designed for current and future public health professionals who wish to develop expertise or specialization in this area. Courses for this program are available completely online. Individuals residing in the Mid-Atlantic region may also take selected courses on site.

The training program focuses on the following core informatics topics:
- Overview of public health and biomedical informatics
- Health information systems design and development
- Health information technology standards and systems interoperability
- Systems evaluation in health sciences informatics
- Population health informatics

Electives are available in: Knowledge Engineering and Decision Support; GIS; Real-Time Surveillance; and "eHealth and mHealth." The program culminates with a practicum, working on an approved public health informatics project.

Tuition Funding

Qualified applicants are eligible for a $10,000 tuition subsidy via a grant from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), US Department of Health and Human Services. This subsidy is available on a competitive basis and with receipt of the award, the total tuition and fees that the student or employer will be required to pay to complete the certificate requirements is *approximately* $9,200. The ONC sponsored scholarship program is especially interested in applicants currently working within US public health agencies who wish to re-tool to specialize in public health informatics.

* Only US citizens or verified permanent residents are eligible for the ONC tuition subsidy. **Those awarded the subsidy must complete all certificate requirements within 12 months**. Priority for the tuition subsidy will be given to professionals currently employed in the public health field within the US or those intending to enter the domestic public health field. The tuition subsidy is *not* intended for those already working on a full time basis in the public health informatics field. All tuition subsidy awards are subject to ONC approval.

Applicants not eligible for the ONC funding can expect to pay approximately $19,200 to complete the certificate program and are permitted up to 24 months to complete the certificate courses.

Certificate Application Eligibility

The certificate in Public Health Informatics is open to both current degree candidates at the Bloomberg School of Public Health as well as those with no School affiliation working in the field of public health who are seeking to move into the informatics field. Credits earned in the certificate program may be applied towards other Johns Hopkins degree programs - such as the MPH or informatics MS - if accepted into a program at a later date.

Eligibility requirement for the certificate include either: 1) an earned graduate degree in public health; or 2) current enrollment in graduate public health degree program; or 3) a bachelor's degree and a minimum of 3 years of direct public health experience.

The next cycle of training will commence in late August of 2012. **The application deadline for entry into this cohort is <u>March 15, 2012</u>.**

More information about the Public Health Informatics Certificate Training Program, including application forms and detailed instructions, can be found at: http://www.jhsph.edu/dept/hpm/certificates/informatics

If, after carefully reviewing the program web site, you have further questions, please contact Ms. Pamela Davis, the program coordinator at pdavis@jhsph.edu or 410-614-1580.

As part of the Johns Hopkins University-wide health informatics training, two other programs (also with subsidies funded by the ONC) are available for medical, nursing, information technology, software engineers, and clinical management professionals without public health experience. These other programs are hosted at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and School of Nursing. Information on these other programs for professionals <u>without</u> public health experience can be found at: http://www.jhu.edu/healthIT