Johns Hopkins School of Public Health Practicum Educational Plan

Description of the MPH Practicum
The intent of the practicum requirement is to engage students in activities aligned with their career goals, as well as activities that demonstrate application of public health concepts and critical thinking relevant to the student’s area of interest. Students will seek out activities that further develop their skill set and add new tools to their professional toolkit. Upon completion of the program, the student will be able to provide evidence of application of these skills to potential employers.

Educational Plan
The Educational Plan is completed and signed by the Student and the Preceptor. This agreement outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Student, Preceptor and JHSPH Practicum Coordinator. The goals, objectives, and deliverables of the practicum are also defined. The purpose is to ensure that all parties understand and agree upon the practicum activities.

Preceptor Responsibilities
- Develop and agree to facilitate the practicum experience
- Assist the student with their Practicum Educational Plan, which outlines the roles and responsibilities of the student, preceptor, and JHSPH, as well as the practicum project description, specific goals and objectives, and proposed timeline.
- Provide adequate working space for the student as needed (e.g. computer, internet, desk)
- Review the organization’s policies and rules, as well as mission and goals with the student
- Provide the student with any necessary background information and materials as warranted
- Inform your organization’s leadership about the practicum, and identify an alternate preceptor
- Meet with the student regularly to provide necessary guidance and supervision, as well as establish and maintain project goals, objectives and timeline, an track student’s hours
- Identify other experiences, outside of the practicum, that will expose the student to the “flavor” of working at the practicum site (e.g. staff meetings, conference calls, etc.) if available
- Complete evaluations of the student (JHSPH will contact you when it is time to complete these forms):
  - Progress Report (at the mid-point of experience)
  - Evaluation of student (at the end of experience)
- Communicate with JHSPH in regards to any issues or concerns throughout the practicum

Student’s Responsibilities
- Work on-site at the agency and comply to the organization’s policies and rules
- Provide formal feedback on practicum progress at the mid-point and completion of practicum
- Remain in communication with the preceptor throughout the practicum
- Abide by the JHSPH Academic Ethics Code. Students are required to complete and review the Academic Ethics Module.
- Do not engage in activities that violate standards for ethical practice or research (concerns about this should be communicated to Practicum Coordinator before an activity is undertaken)

School’s Responsibilities
- Confirm with student and preceptor that proposed experience will meet practicum requirement
- Maintain communication with the student and preceptor throughout the project as warranted, including addressing any concerns or problems
- Work with the student and preceptor to evaluate the formal feedback on the progress of the practicum at the mid-point and completion of the practicum
- Track and evaluate the student’s progress and completion of course requirements
Student Information

Student’s First Name: Studentfirstname
Student’s Last Name: Studentlastname
Student E-mail: student@jhsph.edu
Student Phone: 222-222-2222

Agency/Preceptor Information

** If the Preceptor has not already provided a CV or resume to JHSPH, please have the Preceptor send a CV or resume to practice@jhsph.edu **

Organization Name: Maryland Colorectal Cancer Control Program, DHMH
Organization City or Town: Baltimore
Organization State or Country: Maryland
Preceptor First Name: Preceptorfirstname
Preceptor Last Name: Preceptorlastname
Preceptor E-mail: preceptor@email.gov
Preceptor Phone: 555-555-5555
Alternate Preceptor Name (first and last): Alternate Preceptorname
Alternate Preceptor E-mail: alternate.preceptor@email.gov
Alternate Preceptor Phone: 777-777-7777

Brief Description of Organization (mission, population focus):

The Maryland Colorectal Cancer Control Program (CRCCP) works to increase high quality CRC screening in Maryland residents 50 years and older to 80% by 2014. The Program objectives focus on reducing disparities in CRC burden, screening and access to care as well as promoting the United States Preventive Health Services Task Force colorectal cancer screening recommendations. The program conducts population based systems approaches to increase CRC screening through engaging Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), local health departments, the Maryland Medicaid program, and other state and local level partners.
Brief Description of Practicum (no more than 2 paragraphs, and includes project goals and objectives):

The Affordable Care Act and Cancer Screening: Implications for Maryland's Colorectal Cancer Screening Programs
The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires private insurers to cover without co-pays “A” and “B” recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), which includes some colorectal cancer screening tests. ACA implementation across Maryland is expected to reduce the estimated 700,000 uninsured Maryland residents by half (source: Maryland Health Care Reform Coordinating Council) through Medicaid expansion and allow residents to access and afford timely cancer screenings. Many of the newly insured Maryland residents are current patients of the Center for Cancer Prevention CRCCP. It is likely that those patients will turn to their local health department for help enrolling in and navigating the health system. To date, there are no ACA Maryland specific briefs, fact sheets, or presentations that address how the ACA implementation and Medicaid expansion may affect local cancer screening programs and their role as a resource for the newly insured. The intern will review and study applicable policies and regulations to develop these important communication materials.

Summary of Student’s Duties (bullet points):

- Become familiar with the CRCCP program
- Utilize available federal, state and local resources to analyze applicable elements of ACA and Medicaid expansion that relate to colorectal cancer screening
- Work with State and local level staff to understand the audience specific questions, needs and program variance (via phone, email, online and/or in person interviews)
- Develop at least one policy brief about the impact of colorectal cancer screenings with the ACA Maryland, including results of policy analysis
- Formulate program recommendations for local health departments and local cancer screening programs
- If time permits, develop presentations from the policy briefs as needed. Opportunity to present findings based on the comfort and skill of the student.

The student will:
- Become familiar with the CRCCP program
- Utilize available federal, state and local resources to analyze applicable elements of ACA and Medicaid expansion that relate to colorectal cancer screening
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- If time permits, develop presentations from the policy briefs as needed. Opportunity to present findings based on the comfort and skill of the student.

Summary of Preceptor’s Duties (bullet points):

- Provide background materials and connect student with resources
- Supervise and guide the student throughout the project
- Meet with the student regularly to ensure project progression
- Provide opportunities to attend meetings, seminars, trainings, and meet with other DHMH staff as relevant

Deliverables (final products for the agency, if applicable):

- Paper summarizing the applicable ACA/Medicaid expansion policies and regulations that pertain to colorectal cancer screening, and how the regulations and policies may impact local CRCCP screening efforts.
- Fact sheets to explain how the ACA Maryland will affect colorectal cancer screening costs and processes (both for patients and local cancer screening programs)
- If time permits, presentations to local CRCCP screening programs that discuss how ACA/Medicaid expansion may impact their programs.

Start Date: October 28, 2013

End Date: March 14, 2014

Anticipated Deadline to Submit Progress Report to the MPH Program: January 31, 2014

Hours on-site at organization: 96 hours

 Hours off-site working on deliverables: 10

Other off-site hours (training, seminars, etc.): 5
Statement of Agreement
By signing below, I agree to the terms outlined in this Practicum Educational Plan to the best of my abilities. Should there be any changes to or problems with the items outlined above, I will update all those involved, including JHSPH. I understand that the practicum cannot officially begin until all parties have signed the Practicum Educational Plan, including the Preceptor, alternate Preceptor, Student and JHSPH.

Preceptor
09/16/2013

Alternate Preceptor
09/16/2013

Student
09/16/2013

JHSPH
09/16/2013

Please submit to JHSPH by uploading this document to the Practicum Proposal Form.