



1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 220 | Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: (202) 789-1050 | www.ceph.org

November 25, 2020

Ying Li, PhD, CHES
Coordinator, Community Health Program
Western Washington University
Sent via email

Dear Dr. Li:

On behalf of the Council on Education for Public Health, I am pleased to advise you that the CEPH Board of Councilors acted at its November 19-20, 2020 meeting to accredit the Community Health Program at Western Washington University for a five-year term, with an interim report to be submitted in fall 2021. I have attached a seal that reflects the program's accreditation status. Based on CEPH procedures and the documentation submitted, the program's initial accreditation date will be recorded as December 12, 2018.

The accreditation term extends until December 31, 2025, pending the program's continued documentation of compliance through the interim report, annual reporting, and any other reporting required by the Council. Additionally, since your site visit occurred via distance technology to accommodate COVID-19-related travel restrictions, this accreditation term is also contingent on the program hosting an on-campus visit no later than November 20, 2021 to validate the program's continuing eligibility for accreditation.

The interim report will be due on October 7, 2021 and must address the criteria for which there was a "partially met" assessment. Specifically, the interim report should provide evidence that the program has:

- a) Developed and implemented data collection methods for the required CEPH foundational competencies and the program's self-defined competencies. Data sources may include internship preceptors, curricular assessments, etc. The data collection and analysis methods should enable the program to track trends in student learning over time. The report must include initial data. (Criterion C1)
- b) Updated and ensured accuracy and availability of all program materials on the program's current website and on the department website. (Criterion J1)

Please be aware that failure to come into compliance with all accreditation criteria must trigger specific actions on CEPH's part. These actions, mandated in federal regulations governing accrediting agencies that are recognized by the US Department of Education, include initiating adverse action or, if good cause is demonstrated, extending by one year the period during which the program or school may come into compliance with the remaining criteria, after which CEPH must take adverse action. CEPH is required to deny or revoke accreditation when a school or program fails to demonstrate that it has come into compliance. Thus, interim reports have serious consequences. Additional information about preparing interim reports is available on the [CEPH website](http://www.ceph.org).

We are enclosing a copy of the Council's final accreditation report. The report is also being transmitted to the chief executive officer of your university as the Council's official report. This differs from the team's report that you received prior to our meeting in the following area: the Council changed the finding for Criterion B1 (Public Health Curriculum) from met with commentary to met and added language explaining its rationale.

I would like to call your attention to the disclosure provisions in our adopted procedures. The program is expected to make its official accreditation report available to the public on request 60 days following the accreditation decision. **The program may make the report and final self-study available in full on its website, or it must clearly indicate on the website how to request a copy of either document.** See Section 7 of the [Accreditation Procedures](#) for additional information.

You may append a written response whenever you distribute the report. The official report also will be available on request from CEPH after 60 days, but it is our intent to refer all initial requests to you. If you provide this office with a copy of a written response by January 11, 2021, we will be pleased to append it whenever we respond to a request for the report. Please note that this response is optional.

We would also like to remind you that whenever an accredited school or program undergoes a substantive change, it is obligated to provide written notification to CEPH of the intended change. Substantive changes are defined in the procedures manual, but generally include offering a new degree, adding or discontinuing an area of specialization, offering a degree program in a different format or at a distant site and making major revisions to the curricular requirements. Additional information about substantive changes is available on our [website](#).

We appreciated the many courtesies and helpfulness extended to the site visit team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Williams', written in a cursive style.

Phillip Williams, PhD, CIH
President