

## **Proposal for a Dual Degree in Health Administration and Public Health**

**Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs  
Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Public Health**

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### **Goal/Objective**

This proposal is for a joint degree in health administration and public health at Indiana University – Purdue University – Indianapolis. Students who successfully complete the program will receive the Master of Health Administration (MHA) degree from Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs and the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Public Health.

### **Relation to Existing Programs**

Currently, there are two accredited MPH Programs in Indiana; one on the IUPUI campus and one on the IU-Bloomington campus. There is one accredited MHA Program in Indiana, located on the IUPUI campus. Thus the joint MHA/MPH Program on the IUPUI campus would be the only program of its kind in Indiana.

### **Benefits of the Program for Students, IU, and the State**

Public health and health administration are increasingly important areas in health care and medicine. Information, resources, technology, research and new challenges are expanding tremendously in the fields of public health and health administration and it is important to have trained workforce that can bridge these two areas of health care and medicine. The successful completion of a dual degree in public health and health administration provides students with a unique set of knowledge, skills and abilities that enables graduates to communicate relevant health information; account for health care priorities, policy and delivery; manage crises; and address major health concerns. All these activities are information intensive to support professional decision-making, practice and action.

Joint MHA/MPH programs provide graduates with interdisciplinary knowledge, skills and abilities to address challenges on a local and global scale. Such joint programs offer a course of study that emphasizes effective management and responsible oversight within the health care delivery system and focuses on identifying, resolving, and preventing health problems that affect communities and populations. Beyond these foundations, both programs challenge students to lead their organizations toward satisfying the future demands and needs of their communities.

The value of a combined MHA/MPH is recognized nationally. Many universities currently offer joint MHA/MPH programs, including the University of Alabama-Birmingham, the University of North Carolina, the University of South Carolina, and the University of South Florida to name a few. A joint MHA/MPH Program on the IUPUI campus would enable students interested in

combining health administration and public health to remain in Indiana rather than leaving the state to enroll in a streamlined program.

The MHA Program emphasizes the history, organization, and professional make-up of the health care system and develops the business skills for students to lead health care organizations and cope with the changes as dictated by society, the economy, public policy, and the industry itself. The MPH Program provides a different view of health care from a broad, community perspective focusing on identifying, resolving, and preventing health problems that affect communities and populations. The joint MHA/MPH provides students with a unique skill set that will enable them to manage the intricacies of the health care industry, deliver services in a culturally sensitive manner, address changing health behaviors, ensure the safety of homes, workplaces, and food and water supplies, and lead their organizations to meet the needs of their communities.

### **Rationale and Potential Market**

There is some overlap between the MHA and MPH programs, which enables students to complete both degrees in a streamlined process. Combining the principles of public health intervention and prevention with traditional health services management enables students to build upon a growing awareness that prevention and community health, when integrated into the health care delivery system, offer the greatest potential for optimal health.

Delivering health care today requires a model that blends the fields of health care administration (designing and managing systems to delivery efficient and effective health care) and public health (a population or community-based focus). A joint MHA/MPH degree prepares students with a systems-approach to addressing local, state, national and international health issues.

### **Coherence with Campus Mission**

In planning the MPH degree, one of the major objectives of the IU School of Medicine Department of Public Health was to offer students the option for combined study with other degree programs on the IUPUI Campus. This approach reflects the theory that interdisciplinary education offers students better perspectives and skills for addressing the complex issues facing public health today. Complementary graduate programs best prepare students for the complex issues in today's world.

### **Employment Outlook / Opportunities for Degree Recipients**

Medical and health services managers held about 262,000 jobs in 2006. About 37 percent worked in hospitals, and another 22 percent worked in offices of physicians or in nursing and residential care facilities. Most of the remainder worked in home health care services, Federal Government health care facilities, outpatient care centers, insurance carriers, and community care facilities for the elderly. Employment of medical and health services managers is expected to grow 16 percent from 2006 to 2016, which is faster than average for all occupations. [Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics National Employment Matrix] The health care industry will continue to expand and diversify, requiring managers to help ensure smooth business operations.

Employment of medical and health services managers is expected to grow faster than average. Job opportunities should be good, especially for applicants with work experience in the health care field and strong business management skills.

Managers in all settings will be needed to improve quality and efficiency of health care while controlling costs, as insurance companies and Medicare demand higher levels of accountability. Managers also will be needed to oversee the computerization of patient records and to ensure their security as required by law. Additional demand for managers will stem from the need to recruit workers and increase employee retention, to comply with changing regulations, to implement new technology, and to help improve the health of their communities by emphasizing preventive care.

Hospitals will continue to employ the most medical and health services managers over the next decade. The Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) estimates that 250,000 more public health workers will be needed by 2020. The public health workforce is diminishing over time (there were 50,000 fewer public health workers in 2000 than in 1980), so the demand for public health workers continues to increase. The ASPH reported that 23% of the current workforce – almost 110,000 workers – are eligible to retire by 2012. There are documented and forecasted shortages of public health physicians, public health nurses, epidemiologists, health care educators, and administrators. To replenish the workforce and avert the crisis, universities will have to train three times the current number of graduates over the next 12 years.

Medical and health services managers also will be employed by health care management companies that provide management services to hospitals and other organizations and to specific departments such as emergency, information management systems, managed care contract negotiations, and physician recruiting. Job opportunities will be very good especially for applicants with work experience in the health care field and strong business management skills should have the best opportunities. Medical and health services managers with experience in large hospital facilities will enjoy an advantage in the job market, as hospitals become larger and more complex. Competition for jobs at the highest management levels will be keen because of the high pay and prestige.

### **Expenses**

No new costs will be associated with the joint MHA/MPH, as both programs currently exist on the IUPUI campus.

### **Principal Components / Proposed Curriculum**

The proposed curricula for the joint MHA/MPH degree are attached. There are two options for learners. Option A allows students to complete the MPH core courses first. Option B allows students to complete the MHA core courses first. Both options (A and B) allow students to complete the MHA and MPH degrees in three years if enrolled on a full-time basis. The number of credit hours for each course is indicated. In keeping with the traditional approach to dual degrees, there is a reduction in overall hour requirements for both degrees.

## **JOINT MHA/MPH DEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Notes: (1) Applicants to the joint MHA/MPH must be admitted to each program separately and must adhere to the admissions requirements and prerequisite courses stipulated by each program. (2) The student's decision to complete the joint MHA / MPH degree must be declared to the MHA and MPH Programs before the end of the second semester of the first year in either program.

### **Admission Requirements to the Master of Public Health (MPH) Program**

1. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited university or college, show evidence of satisfactory preparation in math and computer skills and have acceptable academic record.
2. Applicants must meet the following criteria:
  - Baccalaureate degree from an accredited university or college with an expected 3.0 cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA)
  - Official GRE scores, if undergraduate GPA is below 3.0
  - Minimum of one year of undergraduate mathematics (e.g. algebra, statistics or finite math)
  - Competent written and oral communication and computing skills
  - Official scores for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), if applicable
  - Completed application including official transcripts, narrative statement, current resumé three academic/professional letters of recommendation.
  - Applicants who have earned an undergraduate degree within a year of applying to MPH Program, hold a foreign bachelors degree, or at the discretion of the Admissions Committee are required to arrange an interview with faculty.

### **Admission Requirements to the Master of Health Administration (MHA) Program**

1. Applicants must possess an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution and have a minimum overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (B) on a 4.0 scale. Applicants with a minimum GPA of 3.0 during the last half of their undergraduate education are shown preference; however, a 3.0 GPA does not guarantee admission.
2. Applicants must complete at least 3 credit hours each of undergraduate courses in introductory accounting or finance, microeconomics, and statistics at an accredited institution with a minimum grade of C in each course. Students who have not completed these courses but who meet all other requirements may be accepted with deficiencies. These students are not usually permitted to enroll in the classes that require these courses as prerequisites until the deficiencies are removed.
3. Applicants must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and achieve a composite score of at least 1,000 total in the quantitative and verbal sections or a GMAT total score of at least a 500. Note that achieving these scores does not guarantee admission. An applicant with a GRE score lower than 500 in any section may be required to receive special academic counseling and evaluation prior to any admission decision. Additional course work may be required, and admission as a provisional student may be stipulated. Applicants who have been awarded an advanced degree may petition the admissions committee for waiver of the GRE requirement.

**MPH Faculty:**

Jay Arekere, PhD, MPH  
Associate Professor  
Behavioral Health Science Concentration Advisor

David Everetts, MD, MPH  
Assistant Professor  
Behavioral Health Science Concentration Advisor

Joan Henkle, DNS, RN  
Assistant Professor  
Manager of Student and Community Affairs

Stephen Jay, MD  
Professor  
Medicine and Public Health

Nan Rong, PhD, MPH  
Assistant Professor  
Health Policy and Management

Greg Steele, DrPH, MPH  
Associate Professor  
Epidemiology Concentration Advisor

Cindy Stone, DrPH, RN  
Associate Professor  
Health Policy and Management Concentration Advisor

G. Marie Swanson, PhD, MPH  
Professor and Associate Chair  
Epidemiology Concentration Advisor

Greg Wilson, MD  
Professor and Interim Chair

**MHA Faculty:**

Michael Gleeson, Associate Professor  
Ph.D., Political Science, Maxwell School, Syracuse University

David Handel, Clinical Professor and Executive in Residence  
M.B.A., Hospital Administration, University of Chicago

Ann Holmes, Associate Professor  
and Adjunct Associate Professor of Public Health, School of Medicine  
Ph.D., Economics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Paul Lang, Clinical Lecturer and Director, Health Programs  
M.P.A., Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

Yong Li, Assistant Professor  
Ph.D., Economics, Wayne State University

David McSwane, Professor  
HSD, Indiana University

Natalia Rekhter, Trustee Lecturer  
M.H.S.A., University of Michigan

Eric R. Wright, Associate Professor  
and Director of Health Policy, Center for Urban Policy and the Environment  
Ph.D., Sociology, Indiana University

Vicki Mech-Hester, Lecturer  
Principal, MechHester Solutions  
Ed.D., Adult Education/Human Resource Development & Counseling, Indiana University

## Master of Public Health – Master of Health Administration Curriculum: Option A

<b>Master of Public Health / Master of Health Administration Concentration: Health Policy and Management</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>First Year</b>	
<b>Fall I</b>	
PBHL - H500 Philosophy and Principles of Health Education	3
PBHL - H517 Fundamentals of Epidemiology	3
PBHL - P501 Issues in Public Health Seminar Series I	1
PBHL Hours	7
SPHA Hours	0
	<b>Total 7</b>
<b>Spring I</b>	
PBHL - H501 U.S. Health Care: Systems, Policies and Ethnical Challenges	3
PBHL - P651 Biostatistics for Public Health	3
PBHL - P502 Issues in Public Health Seminar Series II	1
PBHL Hours	7
SPHA Hours	0
	<b>Total 7</b>
<b>Summer I</b>	
PBHL H519 Environmental Science in Public Health	3
PBHL P503 Public Health Community Projects	1
PBHL Hours	4
SPHA Hours	0
	<b>Total 4</b>
<b>Second Year</b>	
<b>Fall II</b>	
SPHA – H626 Health Service Human Resources Management	3
SPHA – H508 Managing Healthcare Accounting Info & Decision Making (Prerequisite Accounting)	3
SPHA - H514 Health Economics – (Micro Economics Prerequisite)	3
SPHA – H516 Health Service Delivery & The Law	3
PBHL Hours	0
SPHA Hours	9
	<b>Total 12</b>
<b>Spring II</b>	
SPHA – H507 Management of Individual & Group Behavior	3
SPHA - H509 Finance Management Principles of Healthcare - (Prerequisite H508)	3
SPHA – H612 Marketing Health Services Delivery	3
SPHA – H628 Healthcare Information Systems	3
PBHL Hours	0
SPHA Hours	12
	<b>Total 12</b>
<b>Summer II</b>	
SPHA – H702 Internship in Health Services Management or SPHA-H700 Residency or SPHA-H735 Research in Health Administration	3
PBHL Hours	0
SPHA Hours	3
	<b>Total 3</b>
<b>Third Year</b>	
<b>Fall III</b>	
PBHL – P607 Seminar in Health Policy and Management	1
SPHA – H521 Management Science for Health Services Administration	3
SPHA - H502 Developing Strategic Capability in Health Care	3
PBHL Hours	1
SPHA Hours	6
	<b>Total 7</b>
<b>Spring III</b>	
PBHL – P611 Seminar in Policy Development, Implementation and Management	3
SPHA – H615 Healthcare Outcomes and Decision Making Or PBHL- P612 Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (Prereg; H517 & P651)	3
PBHL - P705 Health Policy and Management Concentration Project	3
SPHA – H623 Healthcare Application of Strategic Management Capstone Project	3
PBHL Hours	9
SPHA Hours	3
	<b>Total 12</b>
PBHL Total Hours	<b>25</b>
SPHA Total Hours	<b>39</b>
<b>PBHL &amp; SPHA Combined Total Hours</b>	<b>Total 64</b>

## Master of Health Administration – Master of Public Health Curriculum: Option B

Master of Health Administration – Master of Public Health Concentration: Health Policy and Management	Credit Hours
<b>First Year</b>	
<b>Fall Semester</b>	
SPHA - H501 U.S. Health Care: Systems, Policies and Ethical Challenges	3
SPHA – H626 Health Service Human Resources Management	3
SPHA - H508 Managing Health Care Accounting Info & Decision Making (Prerequisite Accounting)	3
SPHA - H514 Health Economics – (Micro Economics Prerequisite)	3
PBHL Hours	0
SPHA Hours	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
SPHA - H507 Management of Individual & Group Behavior	3
SPHA - H509 Finance Management Principles in Healthcare – (Prerequisite H508)	3
SPHA – H518 Statistical Methods for Health Services	3
PBHL Hours	0
SPHA Hours	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Summer Session I &amp; II</b>	
SPHA - H702 Internship in Health Services Management or SPHA – H700 Residency or SPHA – H735 Research in Health Administration	3
PBHL Hours	0
SPHA Hours	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Second Year</b>	
<b>Fall Semester</b>	
SPHA - H516 Health Service Delivery & The Law	3
PBHL - H500 Philosophy and Principles of Health Education	3
PBHL - H517 Fundamentals of Epidemiology	3
PBHL - P501 Issues in Public Health Seminar Series I	1
PBHL Hours	7
SPHA Hours	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
SPHA - H612 Marketing Health Services Delivery	3
SPHA - H628 Healthcare Information Systems	3
PBHL - P502 Issues in Public Health Seminar Series II	1
PBHL - P612 Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (Prereq: H517 & P651) or SPHA – H615 Outcomes Assessment/Outcomes Management	3
PBHL Hours	4
SPHA Hours	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Summer Session I &amp; II</b>	
PBHL - H519 Environmental Science in Public Health	3
PBHL - P503 Public Health Community Projects	1
PBHL Hours	4
SPHA Hours	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Third Year</b>	
<b>Fall Semester</b>	
SPHA - H521 Management Science for Health Services Administration	3
SPHA – H502 Developing Strategic Capability	3
PBHL - P607 Seminar in Health Policy and Management	1
PBHL Hours	1
SPHA Hours	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
SPHA - H623 Healthcare Application of Strategic Management Capstone Project	3
PBHL - P611 Seminar in Policy Development, Implementation and Management	3
PBHL - P705 Health Policy and Management Concentration Project	3
PBHL Hours	6
SPHA Hours	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>
PBHL Total Hours	22
SPHA Total Hours	42
<b>PBHL &amp; SPHA Combined Total Hours</b>	<b>Total 64</b>