

# Criterion 2

## Instructional Programs

### 2.10 Doctoral Degrees

**CEPH Criterion**

The school shall offer at least three doctoral degree programs that are relevant to any of the five areas of basic public health knowledge.

**CEPH Required Documentation**

- a. Identification of all doctoral programs offered by the school, by degree and area of specialization. The instructional matrix may be referenced for this purpose. If the school is a new applicant and has graduates from only one doctoral program, a description of plans and a timetable for graduating students from the other two doctoral programs must be presented, with university documentation supporting the school's projections.
- b. Data on the number of active students in each doctoral degree program as well as applications, acceptances, enrollments and graduates for the last three years.
- c. Assessment of the extent to which the criterion is met.

**2.10.a. Doctoral Degree Programs**

**Required Documentation:** *Identification of all doctoral programs offered by the school, by degree and area of specialization. The instructional matrix may be referenced for this purpose. If the school is a new applicant and has graduates from only one doctoral program, a description of plans and a timetable for graduating students from the other two doctoral programs must be presented, with university documentation supporting the school's projections.*

See table 2.1.a. (Instructional Matrix) for identification of the doctoral programs offered by the school, by area of specialization—PhD programs in seven departments and DrPH programs in four. The DrPH in Health Policy and Management is offered in Executive Program (distance learning) format.

**2.10.b. Doctoral Students**

**Required Documentation:** *Data on the number of active students in each doctoral degree program as well as applications, acceptances, enrollments and graduates for the last three years.*

See Appendix 2.10.b. for data on the number of active students in each doctoral degree program, as well as applications, acceptances, enrollments, and graduates for the last three years. Application patterns varied over the past three years: For the PhD programs, ESE, EPID, HBHE, and MCH applications all peaked in the second of the three years and decreased by different amounts for fall 2008 admission; BIOS, HPM, and NUTR applications increased for the last year of this same period. Change in new enrollments ranged from 27 fewer in EPID to an increase of 14 in BIOS. Despite EPID's decrease, its total enrollment of 145 active PhD students is well above all of the other departments.

DrPH applications increased in BIOS and HPM (150 applications to the second cohort of the Executive Leadership DrPH), but decreased in MCH and NUTR. NUTR has not admitted any DrPH students for the past three years, and will discontinue the program effective fall 2009.

**2.10.c. Assessment of Doctoral Degrees**

<i>Required Documentation: Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met.</i>
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**Strengths**

- Extensive doctoral program offerings in all departments
- Well-recognized doctoral degree programs that attract strong students
- One of the country's first distance doctoral programs (Executive Doctoral Program in Health Leadership/DrPH in HPM), with increasing demand
- Accomplished doctoral program alumni, many with significant national reputations

**Challenges**

- Determining how to increase competitive funding to recruit doctoral students, including international students and, especially, diverse students
- Addressing the needs of millennial students, who learn differently and have different expectations from previous generations of students

**Future Directions**

- Focus fundraising efforts to obtain financial resources for doctoral students from a variety of sources; (student scholarships is our top fundraising priority for this year)
- Regularly monitor our various doctoral degree programs to determine whether any should be phased out

**This Criterion is met.**

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