MPH Practicum Project Requirements

On behalf of the Colorado School of Public Health, we would like to personally thank you for your interest in becoming a preceptor for the MPH practicum. The MPH practicum experience is intended to support student growth, both personally and professionally while connecting and contributing to community needs. The experience provides students an opportunity to develop professional skills in a public health setting that contributes to an unmet need of the host site.

The primary goals of the practicum are to:

- Provide students with at least 120 hours of public health experience in the field;
- Apply classroom theory, knowledge, skills and techniques to a professional work setting;
- Enhance and develop new skills needed to function as a public health professional;
- Work on a specifically defined public health problem or issue that is salient to the host site;
- Participate in a setting that allows the student to explore future career decisions;
- Engage in professional self-assessment and personal reflection;
- Build a personal network of professional leaders in public health.

The primary responsibilities of a preceptor and host site are to:

- Collaborate with the student to develop a realistic graduate level learning plan
  - Activities may include: data analysis, data collection, key informant interviews, program planning, evaluation, toolkit development, assessment/survey design, and online tools creation. [View MPH Competencies](#).
- Provide student with background information regarding the organization and onboarding process (student may also attend a formal orientation of the organization, if applicable).
- Be available to meet with the student, provide supervision, and mentoring. It is preferred that preceptors/students schedule consistent meeting times to discuss current tasks, challenges and feedback on work accomplished.
- Provide necessary resources for student (i.e. office space, computer, access to data)
- Support student in professional development activities (i.e. include in staff meetings, introduce organizational leaders, invite to professional events)
- Provide written feedback for the student and the school by completing evaluation forms to assess student performance, learning plan progress and continued professional development (Mid-point review at approximately 60 hours, Final Review after 120+ hours are complete).
- Be a reference. Students will begin a career search following the practicum experience. Preceptors often serve as a useful reference and mentor in this process.
- To post a project please visit [www.coloradosphconnect.com](http://www.coloradosphconnect.com) and login as a preceptor/employer to register and create an account.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MPH Practicum Project Timeline</th>
<th>Spring 2018</th>
<th>Summer 2018</th>
<th>Fall Semester 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Host Site Suggestion for Posting Projects</td>
<td>Mid October</td>
<td>March 1st</td>
<td>June 1st</td>
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<td>Student Submission Deadline</td>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>May 21st</td>
<td>August 13th</td>
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If you have any questions please email ColoradoSPH.practicum@ucdenver.edu