

CM Program Code

Graduate certificate in Maternal Child Health

Under Review | Fall 2023

Proposal Information

Workflow Status

In Progress

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

expand ▲

Rick Holmes

Nancy Middlebrook

Proposal Information

Sponsoring faculty member ⓘ

Tammy Thomas

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College

College of Population Health

Department

Population Health

Campus

Health Sciences Center
(Albuquerque)

Effective Term and Year

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Fall 2023

Justification

Program Justification

The graduate level MCH certificate will allow students to: (1) Develop the values needed to provide excellent MCH services; (2) Develop skills to evaluate community and individual needs, partner with communities and individuals in meaningful and equitable ways, and assist in creating authentic change to improve lives; (3) Gain specific MCH knowledge and learn how to integrate this knowledge into their specific field of practice; and (4) Develop and practice the skills needed to be an excellent MCH practitioner and/or researcher.

It is important to note that no MCH programs exist in New Mexico despite having a significant MCH needs. The MCH Bureau, NM Department of Health, has seen a large turnover in its workforce and expects to see a continued trend in the next few years. New Mexico regularly ranks in the bottom (49th/50th out of 50) in child wellbeing according to the Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data. New Mexicans face a number of MCH challenges including high rates of low birth weight babies, infant mortality, maternal mortality, a lack of medical providers, and the lack of access to services in rural and frontier communities. Having a trained MCH workforce in our New Mexico communities has the potential to reduce the negative impacts and improve the quality of lives for women, children, and families.

Additional academic training in MCH issues is vital to the state in numerous ways, and this proposed certificate will ensure that UNM is at the forefront of providing new training options for the state workforce. Thus, the certificate in MCH is in line with UNM's mission by providing students with educational, research, and service opportunities in this area. The graduate level certificate or in MCH contributes to the mission of the Health Sciences Center by educating the maternal and child health workforce in the knowledge and skills needed to ensure all New Mexicans have access to quality MCH care in communities throughout the state.

Impact on long-range planning

The MPH program currently has an enrollment of almost 75 students, and we anticipate enrollment growing over the next year. Many of our community members and students are interested in MCH related courses and have inquired about a graduate level certificate. Based on our discussions with our current students, we anticipate 10 -15 students initially enrolling in the graduate level certificate.

We offered the PH 560 (Introduction to MCH-PH now offered as PH 571) in the summer 2022 WITH 15 graduate level students. We are currently offering the PH 571 course in Fall 2022 and have 5 students registered. In both semesters, we had students from main and HSC campuses representing multiple disciplines, including medicine, nursing, architecture, business, population health. The MCH curriculum has been approved for Interprofessional Education Program (IPEP).

Faculty workload implications

The graduate level MCH certificate program will require four existing COPH faculty to teach the courses once a year as part of their regular teaching load. One faculty will oversee the administrative duties in collaboration with COPH administrative staff. Two faculty members will teach the four core courses. The faculty will hold either a master's degree or PhD and have expertise in teaching maternal and child health courses. The MCH Certificate program should require little extra work for the existing faculty and staff. No additional faculty or staff will be required for the certificate program and no extra cost will be required.

Associated Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

Program Category and Level

Program Category

Certificate

Program Level

Graduate

Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name

Graduate certificate in Maternal Child Health

New Graduate Program

Yes

Dual Degree

No

New Undergrad Degree/Certificate

No

Catalog Information

Program Description

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Admissions Requirements**Graduation Requirements**

File Uploads

Proposal File Upload

- MCH graduate_certificate_new.docx

Executive Summary Upload

- MCH Graduate Certificate Executive Summary.docx

Associate Provost Memo

- Approval for MCH Minor and Certificate from Dr. Levi.pdf

Concentrations

Program Concentrations**Code****Title****Concentration Required**

N/A

Certificate Information

Certificate Requirements

- Complete the following:
 - PH571 - Introduction to Maternal and Child Public Health (3)
 - PH572 - Maternal Child Health Seminar I (3)
 - PH573 - Maternal Child Health Seminar II (3)
 - PH574 - Maternal Child Health Seminar III (3)

Grand Total Credits: 12