



## Medical Education and Research Grant Outcome Report

**Name:** Master in Public Health Degree Program

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**Department:** Population Health Sciences

**Program:** Targeted

**Grant Duration:** 07-01-2004 to 06-30-2009 (60 months)

**Expenditures:** \$2,567,624 (96%)

**Use of Funds (Taxonomy):** Education

**Research Keywords:** Public Health, Interdisciplinary, Practice-based, Applied, Education

► **Description:** This grant supported the creation of an interdisciplinary Master of Public Health degree program at UW-Madison.

► **Contributions/Results:** The University established the MPH program in December 2004. It has since received full accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health in five years, the minimum amount of time to reach that milestone.

During the initial grant period more than 40 students earned MPH degrees. These graduates completed coursework in public health principles, epidemiology, biostatistics, health systems management, policy and behavioral sciences, and environmental health. In addition, they also complete field placements, which allow them practical experience in public health settings. Students complete public health projects in community organizations or conduct original research and present their findings in a scholarly paper. Projects include community needs assessments, social marketing campaigns, program evaluations, and health education programs. In Fall 2009, the program's fifth class was admitted with 39 students.

The University also has approved five dual degree programs in nursing, medicine, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, and policy. Other dual degree programs are in development. About 25 percent of all incoming students are seeking dual degrees.

Following the establishment of the new degree program and accreditation, the MPH program has worked with UWSMPH's Office of Continuing Professional Development to develop a distance MPH program. Work on developing this component of the program is ongoing.

► **Met Objectives:** Project complete

► **Timeline for Application of Results:** Less than three years.

► **New Partnerships or Collaborations:** The five dual degree programs have been the result of new collaborations. They also emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of this program.

► **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** \$291,522

► **Dissemination:** The development of the program has featured in the Wisconsin State Journal, as well as a number of campus publications. The work of MPH students has been disseminated widely. Several MPH students have published papers on their work experience and several have placed work in peer-reviewed journals. Many have presented at the Wisconsin Public Health Association and the American Public Health Association.

► **Additional Funding:** As planned, the School of Medicine and Public Health will take on full financial responsibility for the program over the next two years. The MERC renewed the MPH program in 2009, providing \$592,214 over two years to partially cover costs during this transition period.