

**ICMR School of Public Health
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY (ICMR)
AYAPAKKAM, CHENNAI 600 077**

No.NIE/F/03/IB/2012/

Date: January 1, 2012

**MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
(Epidemiology and Health Systems)**

Information Brochure - 2012

01. INTRODUCTION

The National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE) was conducting two programmes of Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram: (1) Master of Applied Epidemiology (MAE) since 2001 and (2) Master of Public Health (Health services Development Research) (MPH-HSDR) since 2008, at NIE, Chennai. These programmes were primarily aimed at developing a cadre of trained public health professionals in the country by training the 'in-service' health professionals working in government health departments.

Since July 2011, NIE has been conducting MPH (Epidemiology and Health Systems) programme designed by integration of MAE and MPH (HSDR), building on the strengths of the two programmes. The programme uses the basic learning by doing model with focus on applied epidemiology and health systems.

02. CORE COMPETENCIES

MPH (Epidemiology and Health Systems) programme is designed to introduce the students to the basic principles of public health, with emphasis on public health practices in India. Upon completion of the MPH, the student is expected to develop the following seven technical core competencies:

- (1) Understand the scope and concepts and master the methods in epidemiology
- (2) Plan, implement and evaluate public health surveillance
- (3) Investigate the outbreaks
- (4) Conduct public health research in accordance with principles of human subject protection
- (5) Communicate public health information to lay and professional audiences
- (6) Conceptualize the elements of health systems to effectively design, develop, implement and evaluate the public health interventions
- (7) Comprehend the biological, social, behavioural, environmental determinants affecting health

03. COURSE DESCRIPTION

(a) Duration and course organization:

The MPH (Epidemiology and Health Systems) is a two-year programme, comprising of four contact sessions across 13 months at NIE interspersed with three field postings of 11 months duration in total. The details of the contact sessions and field postings are summarized below.

YEAR-1 (Months)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
First Contact Session				First Field Posting			Second Contact Session				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles and practice of public health Epidemiology – Principles and methods Biostatistics Principles of disease surveillance Outbreak investigation/s Ethics Communication skills Qualitative research methods Field exercise: Research methodology Manuscript writing 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public health situation analysis Outbreak investigation/s Secondary data analysis 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field exercise: Evaluation of surveillance system Health Systems and National Rural Health Mission Programme evaluation Social and Behavioural sciences Infectious disease epidemiology Chronic (non-communicable) disease and injury epidemiology Demography 				

YEAR-2 (Months)

13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Second Field Posting			Third Contact Session		Third Field Posting				Final Contact Session		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description and evaluation of health programme Outbreak investigation/s 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion and finalization of dissertation protocol Media and communication Public health nutrition Occupational and environmental health 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outbreak investigation/s Data collection for dissertation 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data analysis Manuscript preparation 		

(b) Course credits:

The MPH (EHS) is a 60 credits programme. Of these, 22 credits are for the contact sessions at NIE and 38 for various field projects conducted during their ‘field postings’. During the field postings, the students will be placed in their districts/workplace and they will conduct five field projects, i.e., (1) public health situation analysis (2) surveillance data analysis (3) outbreak investigation (4) evaluation of health programme and (5) dissertation. The distribution of credits for the courses that will be covered during the contact sessions and various projects to be conducted during the field postings are summarized in the following table

Courses	Contact session		Field posting		Total credits
	Modules	Credits	Field projects	Credits	
Principles and practice of public health	Principles and practice of public health	0.5	Public health situation analysis	1.0	1.5
Epidemiology	Epidemiology-principles and methods	2.5	Secondary data analysis	4.0	17.5
	Applied Epidemiology	5.0	Outbreak investigation	4.0	
	Infectious disease epidemiology	1.0			
	Chronic (non-communicable) diseases and Injury Epidemiology	1.0			
Bio-statistics	Bio-statistics	2.5			2.5
Demography	Demography	0.5			0.5
Health systems	Health systems	5.0	Programme evaluation	5.0	10.0
Social and behavioural sciences	Social and behavioural sciences	1.5			1.5
Media and communication	Media and communication	1.5			1.5
Nutrition	Public health nutrition	0.5			0.5
Occupational and environmental health	Occupational and environmental health	0.5			0.5
			<i>Dissertation</i>	<i>24.0</i>	<i>24.0</i>
TOTAL		22.0		38.0	60.0

(c) Grading system:

A six letter grading system, as described below will be used to assess the student's performance for all courses during the contact sessions and the field projects including the dissertation.

Grading system for the MPH (EHS)

Grade	Performance	Percentage	Grade points
A	Excellent	90% or more	4.0
B	Very good	80-89%	3.5
C	Good	70-79%	3.0
D	Average	60-69%	2.5
E	Satisfactory	50-59%	2.0
F	Fail	Below 50%	0

Based on the credits obtained in different courses, Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) will be calculated as the weighted average of numerical values of grades with credits as weights.

In case of failure in any of the courses, one more chance will be given to reappear for examination within three months. If any candidate fails for the second time, the candidate will have to reappear for the course when the same is offered in subsequent academic years within a span of three years of his admission. In such instances, the candidate will have to obtain prior approval from the competent authority. The maximum grade that will be awarded for a re- examination will be limited to C.

(d) Criteria for award of the MPH degree:

The minimum for pass in each course and field projects including dissertation will be grade E. For the award of the MPH degree, the student must obtain a minimum of grade E in all the courses and field projects with a minimum CGPA of 2 in total.

04. SPONSORING AGENCIES

The sponsoring authority (Central/State Government/non-governmental organizations) should nominate and depute the candidates for two years on a full time basis (refer-5f).

05. ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME

Admission is open to government sponsored and private candidates. Twenty (20) candidates will be admitted in the July 2012 academic session. Preference will be given to the candidates sponsored by the Central/State Governments / Union Territories and Armed Forces.

(a) Eligibility Criteria

Candidates fulfilling the following criteria are eligible to apply for the course:

- M.B.B.S. degree recognized by Medical Council of India
- Working in public health, preferably in State or Central Government Department or in Medical institutions, sponsored on deputation for two years on full-time basis
- Three years experience in public health related activities
- Age up to 45 years as on 1.7.2012. SC/ST/OBC/PH candidates will be eligible for age relaxation as per Government of India rules.

(b) Course Fee

There is **no course** fee for the candidates sponsored by the State/Central Government Departments/Armed forces.

For the non-sponsored government/private candidates and the sponsored candidates from private institutions, the course fee is Rs.1,00,000/= (Rupees One lakh only) (non-refundable), payable at the beginning of the course.

(c) Method of selection

A Selection Committee constituted by SCTIMST will select the candidates based on the following:

- Review of the application form
- Written test (if necessary)
- Personal interview at NIE, Chennai

Reservation of seats will be as per Government of India norms being followed by SCTIMST. Mere possession of the eligibility criteria will not entail selection for the course. The decision of the Director, SCTIMST, shall be final for selection of the candidates.

(d) Application Form

The prescribed application form can be downloaded from the Institute's Website: www.nie.gov.in

The prescribed application form given in the website or its photocopy alone should be used. Application in any other form will not be considered.

(e) Application Fee

Applications should be submitted along with the application fee of Rs.600/= (Rupees Six hundred only) by means of a Demand Draft drawn on any nationalized bank in favour of "SCTIMST" payable at Thiruvananthapuram. Applications without the application fee will not be considered.

(f) Sponsorship

Sponsored candidates should enclose **Sponsorship Letter** from the employer, in original in the specified format (given in the Application Form), along with the application or produce the same at the time of interview.

(g) Last Date

The last date for receipt of the completed applications at NIE is **1st March 2012**.

(h) Submission of application

Duly filled in prescribed Application Form with necessary enclosures should be sent to the following address.

The Course Co-ordinator, MPH
ICMR School of Public Health
National Institute of Epidemiology
Tamil Nadu Housing Board, Ayapakkam
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 077

Candidates should submit an advance copy of the application in the prescribed form with the Application Fee of Rs.600/= (original Demand Draft) and other enclosures by Registered/Speed Post, to reach NIE, directly, on or before the last date. They should send a copy of the Demand Draft along with their original application through proper channel. (Please tick the appropriate box in the first page of the application regarding Original or Advance Copy)

(i) Contact details

Email: nieicmr@gmail.com

Phone: 044-26136417 / 26136420

Website: www.nie.gov.in

Fax: 044-26136426