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A.	Program title, level of degree, and total number of credit hours	<b>Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree Program, 42 Credit Hours</b>
B.	Concentrations, options, and tracks	<b>None</b>
C.	CIP code from the current U.S. Department of Education's Classification of Instructional Programs	<b>51.2201</b>
D.	Proposed date of implementation	<b>The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program has been approved and launched in other states. Chamberlain University will not enroll South Carolina residents until the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education's approval is received.</b>
E.	Site	<b>Chamberlain University's National Management Office is located at 3005 Highland Parkway, Downers Grove, Illinois, 60515. Chamberlain's online programs emanate from the Chamberlain's Addison, Illinois campus located at 1221 N Swift Rd, Addison, IL 60101.</b>
F.	Delivery mode (traditional, distance education, and/or blended)	<b>Distance Education</b>
G.	Area of certification for programs that prepare teachers and other school professionals	<b>Not Applicable.</b>
H.	Steps of institution approvals (e.g., faculty committees, institutional governing board, presidents or chief executive officer) and dates of each approval	<p><b>On April 3, 2014, Chamberlain's Board of Trustees approved the plan to launch the online MPH program.</b></p> <p><b>In February 2015, Chamberlain's Graduate Curriculum Committee approved the MPH program.</b></p> <p><b>The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), approved the MPH degree program on June 21, 2016.</b></p>
I.	Process to include within institutional accreditation	<b>Chamberlain College of Nursing is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC, <a href="http://www.hlcommission.org">www.hlcommission.org</a>). HLC is a regional agency that accredits U.S. colleges and universities at the institutional level.</b>



NOTE: Student demand or interest may be cited in this section but, unsupported, does not constitute evidence of need. If student demand survey data is included, a copy of the survey (and basic survey methodology) must be provided.

### Need for MPH Program

In 2008, Rosenstock et al., cited that there were approximately 500,000 public health professionals employed in the United States, with a substantial shortage predicted in the coming years. In 2013, the University of Michigan Center for Public Health Workforce Studies published a revised enumeration of the public health workforce numbers by reanalyzing and corroborating data collected from six different data sources. This study concluded that there were approximately the same number of public health workers as noted in 2008 – citing that the highest enumeration estimate was 516,193 workers nationally, including 161,615 local, and 110,547 in state public health, and 244,031 in federal public health agencies.

Because there is little to no standardized taxonomy for public health occupations, public health workforce roles often overlap with other healthcare and social service occupations. Therefore, it is important to look at the projected employment growth in the healthcare and social service occupations as the public health workforce is often woven into these workforce population numbers. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicates that the health and social service occupations grew by about 20% between 2006 and 2016. This sector is expected to further increase by 16% between 2016 and 2026. The BLS also states that healthcare occupations are projected to add more jobs than any of the other occupational groups. This growth is mainly due to an aging population, leading to greater demand for healthcare services.

Comparably, the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce, Industry Employment Projections Program released South Carolina industry employment projections from 2014 to 2024, which demonstrates a 20.29% growth for health care and social services, an increase of 46,422.

In South Carolina, there is a significant risk of poor public health outcomes among its citizens due in part to an underdeveloped public health workforce and an approximate 40% job vacancy rate within the state public health agency of South Carolina (Blackwell, 2017). This is also evidenced by the South Carolina State Health ranking of 44 (out of 50 states) as published in *America's Health Rankings 2017 Annual Report*, as well as a lack of graduate level public health education among public health leadership at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Blackwell, 2017). Given this information, the state of South Carolina is in need of workforce development in terms of public health education particularly at the Master's degree level. As of March 25, 2018, thirty (30) job openings in the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control were posted and available to be filled. (SC-DHEC, 2018). Most of these positions list that applicants must graduate from a CEPH-accredited higher education institution.

South Carolina Workforce Online Services lists “Medical and Health Services Managers” as the #1 occupation related to Public Health General (MPH, DPH). The South Carolina Workforce Online Services lists the Medical and Health Service Managers occupation as a National High Growth Industry and a Regional High Growth Industry.

In addition, the South Carolina Workforce Online Services published Department of Education data outlining the total number of public health program completers by credential for South Carolina in 2014. The statistics were as follows: one completer (3.57%) of a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, 22 completers (78.57%) of Master's Degrees, and five completers (17.86%) of Doctoral Degrees.

The passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2010 provided the federal government and the health industry with mandates and financial incentives to promote population health within the healthcare delivery system. As such, the intent is to focus on moving the healthcare delivery system from an individual-focused rehabilitation intervention mode to a community/population focus with proactive prevention measures. Population health workers will be needed to fulfill this paradigm shift in healthcare practice. Persons prepared with the MPH degree will be able to fill the gap between clinically focused health care practitioners and community health practitioners who will focus on health promotion and education (Stoto, 2013).

In 2003, the Institute of Medicine (2003a, 2003b) called for continuous, lifelong training for the public health workforce. This need, coupled with local health department staffing shortages has led to increased use of distance learning technology to deliver training. According to Kenefick et al. (2014), there is a need for competency-based public health training which can be achieved through the use of online modalities. Chamberlain University intends to offer the MPH program online, which will open new opportunities to full-time workers in the state of South Carolina.

A Master of Public Health degree with a generalist focus opens up many doors to different career paths in health care. Diverse employment opportunities may be found in:

- Environmental health
- Health/medical physics
- Occupational health and industrial hygiene
- Public health education and health promotion
- Community health and preventive medicine
- Maternal and child health
- International public health/international health
- Health services administration

Health care professionals with advanced training (i.e. physicians, nurses, veterinarians, pharmacists, physical therapists, social workers, safety engineers) may find that the MPH degree will add value to their professional practice as they seek to enhance their skills with different populations and communities.

## References

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**B. A discussion of the relationship of the proposed program to other related programs within the institution**

The Master of Public Health degree program is not related to any programs within the institution. Chamberlain University is comprised of two Colleges: the existing Chamberlain College of Nursing and the newly established Chamberlain College of Health Professions. Chamberlain is seeking licensure for the Master of Public Health degree program, which is part of the new College of Health Professions.

**C. If the program is offered at other campuses, provide graduation and placement rates for the program for each site.**

The Master of Public Health degree program has been recently launched in other states, with no graduation and placement rates currently available.

**D. A comprehensive list of similar programs in the state**

Not Applicable. Chamberlain University is an institution applying for licensure to recruit in the State for out-of-state courses.

There are two MPH degree programs currently offered in the state of South Carolina.

The Arnold School of Public Health is affiliated with University of South Carolina at Columbia. This School of Public Health offers two online MPH programs with concentrations in Health Promotion, Education and Behavior (HPEB) and Health Services Policy and Management (HSPM) – the rest of their MPH programs are delivered on ground and in the traditional classroom. They do not offer an online generalist MPH program. The Arnold School of Public Health offers both undergraduate and graduate degrees in public health as well as wide array of concentrations in public health studies. The USC-Columbia Arnold School of Public Health is a Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited school. Graduation from a CEPH-accredited school or program is often an employment requirement for many federal and state organizations that deliver public health care.

The second institution in Carolina that offers an MPH degree is the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, South Carolina. Programs at this university are available in on-ground format only. MUSC targets health professionals for their student population and offers three different concentrations to their enrolled students: Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Health Education. They do not offer a Generalist concentration.

Chamberlain University offers a generalist MPH degree program that is delivered entirely online. Chamberlain aims to target working public health professionals who wish to obtain an MPH degree. Online delivery of the MPH degree is ideal for the working adult student





















