

Preceptor Introduction to the Practice Experience

Practice Experience

Formerly known as the practicum/residency, the practice experience is the Arnold School of Public Health's revamped approach for Master of Public Health (MPH) students to gain practical skills under the supervision of a preceptor within a practice setting. This is done through the creation of work products that students create in collaboration with a practice setting. The practice experience requirements are in line with the most recent accreditation standards of the Council on Education for Public Health.

Role of Preceptor

- Serve as a mentor to students
- Assist in identifying work products and relevant practical experiences to be undertaken during practice experience
- Give feedback and sign off on practice experience proposal
- Work with the Office of Workforce Development to create a Memorandum of agreement between the Arnold School of Public Health and the practice setting if one is not already in place
- Orient student to practice setting
- Provide timely feedback on student performance
- Complete the Practice Experience Evaluation at the end of the experience

Role of the Student

The practice experience is a collaborative effort, but the student is ultimately responsible for taking ownership of and participating in a meaningful experience. The student will write the practice experience proposal, ensure the MOA has been completed before the contact hours begin, and will facilitate clear communication between the school and the site.

Role of Practice Experience Advisor

A faculty member in the Arnold School of Public Health will oversee each practice experience to ensure that all accreditation standards are met during the experience. The advisor is also a resource to both the student and the preceptor to ensure that a meaningful experience is shared by all parties.

Role of Public Health Practice and Workforce Development

The [Office of Faculty Affairs and Curriculum's Public Health Practice and Workforce Development](#) is responsible for facilitating high quality practical learning experiences for Arnold School students by serving as a point of contact and support for students, faculty, staff and practitioners/professionals throughout the duration of a placement. Our group also conducts workforce research and provides evidence-based educational resources to develop public health competencies.

Time Frame/ Commitment

Most students complete their practice experience fieldwork over the span of an academic semester. Although hour requirements vary by academic department, an hour requirement can be negotiated during the practice experience proposal. A typical experience lasts an academic semester, which is 14 weeks.

Components of Practice Experience

Practice Experience Proposal

The practice proposal is the planning document that is written by the student. The proposal sets the framework for the experience to be carried out and ensures that the student, preceptor, and practice experience advisor are all on the same page before the experience fieldwork begins

Work Products

Work products are deliverables that are meaningful to both the student and the organization. Examples of products include written assignments, projects, videos, multi-media presentations, spreadsheets, websites, posters, photos, white papers, literature reviews, surveys, curriculum, policy briefs, training manual, evaluation reports, needs assessments, interview guides, infographics, logic models, quality improvement plans, community health assessment, SWOT analysis or other digital artifacts of learning.

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

A MOA is a written document describing a cooperative relationship between two parties wishing to work together on a project or to meet an agreed upon objective. A MOA serves as a legal document and describes the terms and details of the partnership agreement. A MOA must be established between the practice setting and the Arnold School before the fieldwork of the experience begins. If a template is needed please fill and sign the template below

https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/public_health/internal/documents/moa_template.pdf

Email the completed template to Zach Jenkins jenki275@mailbox.sc.edu

APEX

This is the tracking system that the Arnold School of Public Health uses to track student experiences. A link to sign off on the practice proposal will be sent to your email via APEX. No registration will be required.