**Explore Public Health 2020**

<https://cpha.memberclicks.net/explore-public-health-> • [ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com](mailto:ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com)

***Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health***

***is the most shocking and the most inhumane.***

**-Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Background

Public health is an exciting and growing field but we are experiencing a shortage of public health workers. Between 1980 and 2000, the workforce diminished by 50,000 professionals and this trend is expected to continue as many of the current public health workers become eligible for retirement (ASPH, 2010). In order to ensure that the public health workforce can adequately meet the needs of the US and global population, it is crucial to increase the number of students pursuing a public health degree.

Although we must focus on increasing the overall public health workforce, this effort also serves as a great opportunity to improve the diversity of public health professionals. As with many other states, the racial and ethnic composition of Colorado’s residents is growing. People of color make up 30% of our population but less than 15% of health professionals are people of color (Krause, M., 2004). Diversifying the public health workforce will be an important step towards providing more culturally and linguistically appropriate services, which will aid in the efforts towards eliminating racial/ethnic health disparities.

Explore Public Health is a program of the Colorado Public Health Association designed for people of color ages 18-25 who are interested in learning more about the field of public health. With the aim of increasing the diversity of public health professionals, Explore Public Health will provide participants the opportunity to learn about a variety of public health topics and network with a diverse group of public health professionals.

Program Dates

Accepted participants are required to attend all four sessions of the Explore Public Health program. These sessions will take place from 9 am to 4 pm on **February 22, April 4, April 25, and May 23.**

Objectives

* To increase the diversity in the field of public health, the program is designed to:
* Increase participants’ knowledge of degree programs and careers in public health
* Raise awareness around racial/ethnic health inequities
* Provide participants with an opportunity to interact with and establish networks with various public health professionals
* Develop participants’ leadership and critical thinking skills
* Participate in an action-oriented public health project of the groups’ choosing

Program Description

Participants of the Explore Public Health program will meet approximately once a month between January and April to learn about topics including, but not limited to, the following:

* History of Public Health
* Health Inequities and Social Determinants of Health
* Cultural Inclusivity
* Leadership and Communication
* Systems Thinking
* Evaluating Public Health Programs
* Career Opportunities Available in Public Health
* Public Health Degree Programs, Scholarships, and Loan Repayment Resources
* Public Health Interventions In Action

Participants will also have the opportunity to connect with public health professionals and current students at the Colorado School of Public Health.

Important Information

* **DEADLINE EXTENDED: All application materials must be received by Saturday, February 1st .**  Applications may be submitted electronically to [ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com](mailto:ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com).
* **All applicants will be notified about their acceptance status by Friday, February 7th.**  Notifications will be sent to the email address provided on the application.
* If accepted, in order to confirm your seat in the Explore Public Health program, participants must submit a $20 tuition fee no later than the first session, **February 22.**  (Scholarship opportunities are available to those unable to make this payment.)
* **Accepted participants are required to attend all four sessions of the Explore Public Health program**. These sessions will take place from 9 am to 4 pm on **February 22, April 4, April 25, and May 23.** The location is TBD within the Denver Metro area and will be influenced based on where the selected participants reside.

**Explore Public Health Application**

Applications, including essay question responses, must be received by **Saturday, February 1st** . Please answer all questions completely. Your application must be legible (computer-generated applications are strongly preferred).

**Personal Information**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Full Name | | | | Gender |
|  | | | | ☐ Man  ☐ Woman  ☐ Other Gender  ☐ Prefer Not to Respond |
| Home Address | | | | |
|  | | | | |
| City | State | Postal Code | Cell Phone | |
|  |  |  |  | |
| Email | | | Date of Birth | |
|  | | |  | |
| Race/Ethnicity (Please check all that apply.) | | | | |
| ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ AsianAmerican/Pacific Islander ☐ Black or African American ☐ Hispanic/Latinx ☐ Middle Eastern ☐ White  ☐ Other Race/Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | | | |

**Academic Information**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Type of School | Name of School | Years of Attendance | Major or Degree |
| High School |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| College |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Professional |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Employment Information**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Employer | Position | Employment Dates |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
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**Community and Volunteer Services**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Organization | Position | Participation Dates |
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**Explore Public Health Application**

**Essay Questions**

Please respond to the following essay questions using approximately 250 to 400 words for *each* response.

1. Why are you interested in the Explore Public Health program? What do you expect to gain from it?
2. How has your background, including personal, professional, service, and academic experiences, prepared you to work effectively and empathetically with diverse communities?
3. Describe an experience you recently had that demonstrates your capacity as a leader. If you do not feel that you have ever had the opportunity to serve as a leader, describe the type of leader you would like to become.

**Contact Information**

All application materials must be received by **Saturday, February 1st**. Please submit your application to [ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com](mailto:ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com). If you have any questions, please contact Marisa Westbrook at [ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com](mailto:ExplorePublicHealth@gmail.com).