

# WHAT IS A PRACTICUM?

## WHAT DO THE GWSPH PRACTICUMS LOOK LIKE?

Students are required to complete at least **120 hours of supervised public health fieldwork** and submit **two work products** that display **proof of attainment of five selected competencies**.

## WHO CAN BE A PRACTICUM SITE AND PRECEPTOR?

The practicum must be conducted in a public health or related setting; and must be supervised by an experienced public-health (or related field) professional as outlined below:

- Doctoral-level degree and current, full-time, relevant professional public health experience; or
- Master of Public Health degree and at least three years of full-time, relevant professional public health experience; or
- Other Master-level degree and at least five years of full-time, relevant professional public health experience, or
- Bachelor level degree and at least ten years of full-time, relevant professional public health experience.

## PRECEPTOR ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Review Guidebooks
- Review and approve the Practicum Plan
- Provide constructive feedback and guidance to student
- Complete Midpoint and Final Evaluations
- Negotiate payment or stipend with the student, if applicable
- Address any reports from the student of concerns

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PRACTICUM?

The goal of a Practicum is to provide an opportunity for students to synthesize, integrate, and apply practical skills, knowledge, and training learned through courses, to gain professional experience in a public health work environment, and to work on public health practice projects.

## PRACTICUM SITES HAVE THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS

- Serves a public health, health services, or social impact mission or supports an agency or department with that mission
- Addresses significant public health, health services or social problems
- Offers students the opportunity to learn from public health professionals in a supervised environment
- Have well-defined activities that will enable students to apply their knowledge and skills

## OPPORTUNITIES THAT QUALIFY AS A PRACTICUM

Practicums can be developed in tandem with the student and organization or created out of existing opportunities such as:

- Internship
- Volunteer Position
- Part-time or Full-time Job Opportunity