

### *Criterion V.G*

**If the school offers joint degree programs, the required curriculum for the professional public health degree shall be equivalent to that required for a separate public health degree.**

#### Expected Documentation

1. Identification of joint degree programs offered by the school and a description of the requirements for each.
2. Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met.

## Criterion V.G – Joint Degree Programs

### 1. Joint Degree Programs

The UIC School of Public Health offers students the opportunity to earn the following joint degrees: MBA/MPH, MD/MPH and DDS/MPH, and an MPH/MS in Nursing.

- **Current Master of Business Administration and Master of Public Health Degree Program**

The College of Business Administration and the School of Public Health offer a program of study leading to the Master of Business Administration and the Master of Public Health. Presently students studying for this joint degree concentrate in gerontology administration, although efforts are underway to greatly expand the concentrations that are available to students in the joint degree program (description of proposed degree follows). As currently established, the joint MBA/MPH program is designed for baccalaureate-prepared students who are seeking health care and business preparation for health care executive positions in government, hospital systems, long-term care, health maintenance organizations, planning/regulatory bodies, and consulting. To enter the program a person must apply through a joint application process and be admitted to both the Master of Business Administration program and Master of Public Health program. The policies of each program with respect to admission requirements, degree requirements and other academic requirements are applicable. The student will take his/her MPH training through either community health sciences or health policy and administration. The 68-69 hour program of study can be completed on a full-time basis in two calendar years or, for part-time students, in three and one-half years.

- **Proposed MBA/MPH Degree Program**

It is expected that the Combined Master of Business Administration and Master of Public Health degree program officially will be revised effective fall 1999. The proposed program of study follows:

**Description:** The proposed program expands the concentrations available to students who are seeking a combined MBA/MPH degree. Under the new program, students will be admitted into one of the four divisions within the School of Public Health. Students will elect areas of concentration from within their SPH division. *To satisfy the MPH component of the joint degree, students must meet the requirements of the School of Public Health division to which they are admitted.* Approved School of Public Health courses also can fulfill the elective requirements for the MBA.

The combined degree requires students to complete a minimum total of 64-65 semester hours of study for full-time students and a minimum total of 70-71 semester hours for part-time students. *(Note, while the number of semester hours differ, the full-time core MBA program and part-time core MBA program are equivalent.)* Most students should be able to complete the program on a full-time basis in 2 ½ years. The programs of study for this joint degree program can be seen in Appendix V.G.1.

- **Joint DDS/MPH Degree Program**

A combined DDS/MPH degree program is available for students in good standing in the College of Dentistry at UIC. There are two tracks for this joint degree program.

- a) Registration in a full dental curriculum and 4 credit hours per semester concurrently in the School of Public Health. Two summer semesters would be available to complete the additional semester hours of SPH course work and the field practicum.
- b) Registration in dentistry and use of vacation and alternate semesters to carry a full-time course load in the School of Public Health.

- **Joint MD/MPH Program**

Students entering the joint MD/MPH program have two options for completing the joint degree. The first option is a five-year program of study. For exceptional students, a second option is a four-year intensive program of study primarily intended for James Scholars (a select group of highly motivated and gifted students who pursue the learning objectives of the College of Medicine through an individualized curriculum). The five-year option is presented in Appendix V.G.1.

### **Combined MPH and MS in Nursing Degree**

*Proposed changes for MS/MPH joint degree program. Note: The new program has not yet received School of Public Health approval.*

This is a combined master's degree program for students earning a Master of Science in Nursing Sciences with a specialization in public health nursing and a Master of Public Health with a specialization in community health sciences (see Appendix V.G.1).

## **2. Assessment**

The required curriculum of the MPH degree portion of these joint degrees is equivalent to that required for the separate public health degree (in many cases it is equivalent to the professional enhancement program requirements). This criterion is met.