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**JOINT AGREEMENT:
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE AND UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

This joint agreement is being created to foster the development and coordination of high-quality graduate and post-graduate academic teaching, research and community service programs that address the public health needs of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The agreement will support inter-institutional collaboration between the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville. The primary goal of the agreement is to coordinate the efforts of the universities to develop Schools of Public Health that will jointly move Kentucky towards becoming the healthiest state in the nation.

Background

The University of Kentucky anticipates focusing on professional degree programs emphasizing the practice of public health, while the University of Louisville plans to concentrate on training health professionals for careers in research. Thus, the communities served by the institutions are distinct. Nevertheless, there is room for collaboration on the educational programs of the two institutions while abiding by the criteria of the Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH) for an accredited school of public health. These criteria require that each school of public health offer course work in all of the five core public health disciplines.

The University of Kentucky has offered a Masters of Science in Public Health (MSPH) for over fifteen years (Classification of Instructional Programs Code 512201). The University of Kentucky now proposes to offer a Masters in Public Health (MPH) option and a Doctorate of Public Health (DrPH) degree under that code. The University of Louisville's School of Public Health, opened in 1919, proposes to offer both MPH and PhD degrees in the CEPH-required public health disciplines.

Joint Educational Efforts

The University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville have agreed to work together in order to develop programs leading to the specified public health degrees. The institutions will proceed by first planning the required academic courses for a cooperative MPH degree in Epidemiology. Immediately thereafter, collaboration will proceed for the course work in other MPH degree programs. The core courses in the five areas required for accreditation by CEPH will be cross-listed by the University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky. This will allow students at both campuses to enroll in courses in either campus to satisfy their core course requirements. The two institutions will assure that there will be maximal collaboration in the development of the two unique doctoral degree programs (PhD and DrPH).

The two institutions will develop, using interactive instructional video, video conferencing, and the World Wide Web, distance learning opportunities at each campus so that students from either campus can enroll in courses at the other institution. When feasible, these courses should be developed collaboratively by faculty from participating institutions. Courses may be designed and offered through the "Commonwealth Virtual University" in order to make them available to

a broader constituency, including public health employees in remote parts of the state. Finally, the institutions involved will take advantage of special expertise such as guest lecturers using telecommunication facilities already in existence to the benefit of individuals on campuses of both institutions.

The two Schools of Public Health will seek ways to construct a common admission pathway so that those students admitted to one school are deemed simultaneously admitted to the other school. However, academic admission, performance, and graduation requirements for particular degree programs at each institution remain at the discretion of that institution. Nonetheless, participating institutions will work together to facilitate the movement of students between the two Schools of Public Health in as seamless a fashion as possible. This will require collaboration between the registrars' offices and will be pursued aggressively. In addition, each institution will pursue the joint appointments of qualified faculty from each School of Public Health to the other institution. This will facilitate the implementation of joint course work and joint programs.

Joint Research Efforts

A number of research activities have already been entered into jointly by the two universities, including a submission to a private foundation and an exploration of statewide health surveys. They will actively pursue opportunities for joint participation in a variety of federal, state, and privately funded research initiatives as they are announced. Further, the two institutions look for research opportunities that play to their unique strengths and missions, such as rural and urban comparisons of public health problems in the Commonwealth.

Joint Community Service

Opportunities for joint community service projects will be considered by the institutions, including but not limited to: community-wide health screenings (including those occurring annually at the State Fair), local or regional immunization initiatives, and coordinated responses to Commonwealth, national or international health emergencies. In addition, the two institutions will collaborate in providing technical assistance to local and state health departments who request it.

Administrative Guidance

The two Deans of the Schools of Public Health shall collaborate to implement this agreement using appropriate administrative and organizational mechanisms.