

#### **B4. Alumni Perceptions of Curricular Effectiveness**

**For each public health degree offered, the school collects information on alumni perceptions of their own success in achieving defined competencies and of their ability to apply these competencies in their post-graduation placements.**

**The school defines qualitative and/or quantitative methods designed to maximize response rates and provide useful information. Data from recent graduates within the last five years are typically most useful, as distal graduates may not have completed the curriculum that is currently offered.**

**1) Summarize the findings of alumni self-assessment of success in achieving competencies and ability to apply competencies after graduation.**

Alumni of the BPH program who graduated in 2018 and 2019 were surveyed about their level of preparation to carry out program domains. The overall response rate was 61.5% and more than 80% of respondents indicated that their preparation in those domains was excellent, good or average, with the majority of responses on the higher end of that scale.

Alumni of graduate public health programs who graduated between spring 2015 and summer 2019 were surveyed about their confidence in their ability to carry out their programs' competencies, with 1=lowest confidence and 5=highest confidence. Alumni were also asked to state whether they apply each competency in their current position. Response rates varied by program from a low of 19% among alumni of the PhD in Biostatistics program to a high of 69% among alumni in the PhD in Public Health, Environmental Health concentration. Overall, alumni are confident or highly confident in their ability to carry out their program competencies, with most competencies having a mean score of higher than 4 and a median of 5. For most program competencies, over half of alumni indicated that they use that competency in their current position. The exception to that was some of the former MPH core competencies that have now been replaced by CEPH Foundational competencies.

**2) Provide full documentation of the methodology and findings from alumni data collection.**

See ERF B4-2: Methodology and Findings.

**3) If applicable, assess strengths and weaknesses related to this criterion and plans for improvement in this area.**

Strengths:

- Alumni across all public health programs rate their confidence in carrying out program competencies or domains as high.
- The competencies are applicable to more than half of graduate program respondents in their current positions.

Weaknesses:

- Response rates varied and were low for several programs. This is partly because students lose access to their UF email accounts after graduation and other contact information is often not available.

Plans for improvement:

- Departments will collect alternate email addresses at the time of graduation to improve contact with alumni.
- Alumni will be asked to share the survey link with members of their cohort who may not have received it.
- The MPH program will post an announcement about the survey on the MPH Alumni Facebook page to emphasize the importance of the survey and to request responses.

