

**ICMR School of Public Health  
ICMR – NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY  
TNHB, Ayapakkam, Chennai 600 077**

No.NIE/SPH/03/IB/2019/

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

**MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
(Epidemiology and Health Systems)**

**Information Brochure - 2020**

## **01. INTRODUCTION**

The ICMR – National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE) was conducting two programmes of Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram: (1) Master of Applied Epidemiology (MAE) since 2001 and (2) Master of Public Health (Health Services Development Research) (MPH-HSDR) since 2008, at NIE, Chennai. These programmes were primarily aimed at developing a cadre of trained public health professionals in the country by training the ‘in-service’ health professionals working in government health departments.

Since July 2011, NIE has been conducting MPH (Epidemiology and Health Systems) programme designed by integration of MAE and MPH (HSDR), building on the strengths of the two programmes. The distribution of the graduates and the students from different States are shown in Figure-1, as Annexure. The programme uses the basic learning by doing model with focus on applied epidemiology and health systems.

**The academic session for the year 2020 will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020.**

## **02. CORE COMPETENCIES**

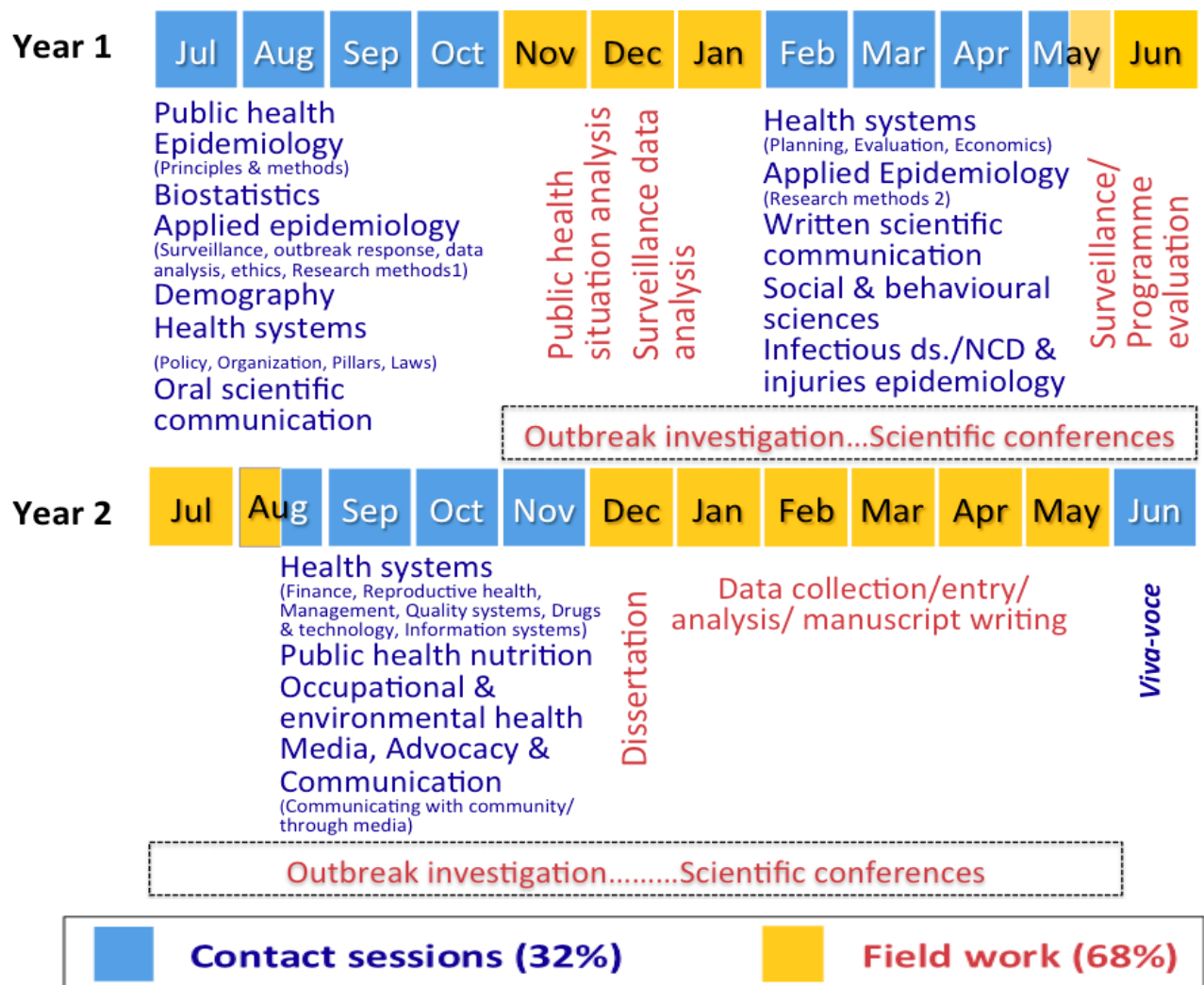
MPH (Epidemiology and Health Systems) programme is designed to introduce the students to the basic principles of public health, with emphasis on public health practices in India. Upon completion of the MPH, the student is expected to develop the following seven technical core competencies:

- (1) Understand the scope and concepts and master the methods in epidemiology
- (2) Plan, implement and evaluate public health surveillance systems
- (3) Investigate the outbreaks
- (4) Conduct public health research in accordance with principles of human subject protection
- (5) Communicate public health information to lay and professional audiences
- (6) Conceptualize the elements of health systems to effectively design, develop, implement and evaluate the public health interventions
- (7) Comprehend the biological, social, behavioural, environmental determinants affecting health

### 03. COURSE DESCRIPTION

#### (a) Duration and course organization:

The MPH (Epidemiology and Health Systems) is a two-year programme, comprising of four contact sessions across 12 months at NIE interspersed with three field postings of 12 months duration in total. The details of the contact sessions and field postings are summarized below:



#### (b) Course credits:

The MPH (EHS) is a 60 credits programme. Of these, 22 credits are for the contact sessions at NIE and 38 for various field projects conducted during their ‘field postings’. During the field postings, the students will be placed in their districts/workplace and they will conduct five field projects, i.e., (1) public health situation analysis (2) surveillance data analysis (3) outbreak investigation (4) evaluation of health programme and (5) dissertation. The distribution of credits for the courses that will be covered during the contact sessions and various projects to be conducted during the field postings are summarized in the following table.

Courses	Contact session		Field posting		Total credits
	Modules	Credits	Field projects	Credits	
Principles and practice of public health	Principles and practice of public health	0.5	Public health situation analysis	1.0	1.5
Epidemiology	Epidemiology-principles and methods	2.5	Secondary data analysis	4.0	17.5
	Applied Epidemiology	5.0	Outbreak investigation	4.0	
	Infectious disease epidemiology	1.0			
	Chronic (non-communicable) diseases and Injury Epidemiology	1.0			
Bio-statistics	Bio-statistics	2.5			2.5
Demography	Demography	0.5			0.5
Health systems	Health systems	5.0	Programme evaluation	5.0	10.0
Social and behavioural sciences	Social and behavioural sciences	1.5			1.5
Media and communication	Media and communication	1.5			1.5
Nutrition	Public health nutrition	0.5			0.5
Occupational and environmental health	Occupational and environmental health	0.5			0.5
			Dissertation	24.0	24.0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>22.0</b>		<b>38.0</b>	<b>60.0</b>

**(c) Grading system:**

A six letter grading system, as described below will be used to assess the student's performance for all courses during the contact sessions and the field projects including the dissertation.

**Grading system for the MPH (EHS)**

Grade	Performance	Percentage	Grade points
A	Excellent	90% or more	4.0
B	Very good	80-89%	3.5
C	Good	70-79%	3.0
D	Average	60-69%	2.5
E	Satisfactory	50-59%	2.0
F	Fail	Below 50%	0

Based on the credits obtained in different courses, Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) will be calculated as the weighted average of numerical values of grades with credits as weights.

In case of failure in any of the courses, one more chance will be given to reappear for examination within three months. If any candidate fails for the second time, the candidate will have to reappear for the course when the same is offered in subsequent academic years within a span of three years of his admission. In such instances, the candidate will have to obtain prior approval from the competent authority. The highest grade that will be awarded for re-examination will be limited to C.

**(d) Criteria for award of the MPH degree:**

The minimum for pass in each course and field projects including dissertation will be grade E. For award of the MPH degree, the student must obtain a minimum of grade E in all the courses and field projects with a minimum CGPA of 2 in total.

**04. ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME**

Admission is open to government and private candidates. Preference will be given to the candidates sponsored by the Central / State Governments / Union Territories and Armed Forces.

**(a) Eligibility Criteria**

Candidates fulfilling the following criteria are eligible to apply for the course:

- (i) M.B.B.S. degree recognized by Medical Council of India
- (ii) (a) Working in public health, preferably regularized and permanent employees of State or Central Government Department or Medical institutions; (b) Private (Non-Government) candidates worked / working in public health
- (iii) Three years experience in public health related activities
- (iv) Age up to 45 years as on 1.7.2020. Departmental candidates from ICMR institutions will be granted age relaxation of 5 years. SC/ST/OBC/PH candidates will be eligible for age relaxation as per Government of India rules

**(b) Sponsorship**

- (i) The sponsoring authority (Central/State Government / Non-Governmental Organizations / Private Institutions) should nominate and depute the candidates for two years on a full time basis.
- (ii) Sponsored candidates should enclose **Sponsorship Letter** from the employer, in original in the specified format (refer specimen given in the Application Form), **along with the application or produce the same at the time of interview.**
- (iii) If the candidates are not sponsored at the time of application, **No Objection Certificate (NOC)** from the employer or a letter mentioning that the candidate will be sponsored if selected for the course should be enclosed (refer specimen given in the Application Form).

### (c) Terms and Conditions of Selection

- (i) Candidates selected for the course should be available for the entire duration of the course, i.e., two years on full time basis
- (ii) Candidates selected for the course should not do private practice or engage in any other employment, etc., during the Contact Sessions and Field Postings
- (iii) If a candidate is found to be engaged in a work other than the MPH course work, his/her admission to the course will be cancelled

### (d) Course Fee

- (i) **There is no course fee for the candidates deputed by the State/Central Government Departments/Armed forces.**
- (ii) **One time Administrative Services fee Rs. 30,000/- to be paid at the time of admission to SCTIMST by both the deputed and non-deputed candidates.**
- (iii) For the non-deputed government/private candidates and the deputed candidates from private institutions, **the course fee is Rs.1,00,000/= (Rupees One lakh only) (non-refundable), payable at the beginning of the course.**

### (e) Method of selection

A Selection Committee constituted by SCTIMST and NIE will select the candidates based on the following:

- Review of the application form
- Written test (if necessary)
- Personal interview at NIE, Chennai

**Number of seats available for admission is 18 seats.** Reservation of seats will be as per Government of India norms being followed by SCTIMST. Mere possession of the eligibility criteria will not entail selection for the course. The decision of the Director, SCTIMST, shall be final for selection of the candidates.

### (f) Application Form

The prescribed application form can be downloaded from the Institute's Website: [www.nie.gov.in](http://www.nie.gov.in)

The prescribed application form given in the website or its photocopy alone should be used. Application in any other form will not be considered.

### (g) Application Fee

Applications should be submitted along with the application fee of Rs.600/= (Rupees Six hundred only) by means of a **Demand Draft** drawn on any nationalized bank in favour of **“Director, NIE” payable at Chennai.** Applications without the application fee will not be considered.

**(h) Last Date**

The extended last date for receipt of the completed applications at NIE is **19<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**(i) Submission of application**

Duly filled in prescribed Application Form with necessary enclosures should be sent to the following address, **superscribing “Application for MPH” on top of the cover.**

MPH Program Co-ordinator  
ICMR School of Public Health  
ICMR - National Institute of Epidemiology  
Tamil Nadu Housing Board, Ayapakkam  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 077

**Candidates should submit an advance copy of the application in the prescribed form with the Application Fee of Rs.600/= (original Demand Draft) and other enclosures by Registered/Speed Post, to reach NIE, directly, on or before the last date. They should send a copy of the Demand Draft along with their original application through proper channel. The application through proper channel should contain either Sponsorship Certificate from the employer or NOC. (Please tick the appropriate box in the first page of the application regarding Original or Advance Copy)**

**(j) Contact details**

Email: [nieicmr@gmail.com](mailto:nieicmr@gmail.com)

Phone: 044-26136420 / 26136419

Website: [www.nie.gov.in](http://www.nie.gov.in)

Fax: 044-26136426

