

University of Vermont, Master of Science in Dietetics Program Required Activities & Assignments: Public Health & WIC

General Information

Below is a list of all activities and assignments that must be completed in each public health supervised practice experience concentration area. Students will be evaluated on each of these learning activities at the conclusion of their rotation experience.

In the event that a student is unable to complete one or more of the assignments at a particular rotation site, the student and or preceptor must contact the UVM MSD Program Director to discuss a comparable alternative activity or assignment.

Note that, at a minimum, students must complete these activities and assignments to satisfy MSD program requirements. Time permitting, preceptors may request or require that students participate in or complete additional activities and assignments. In this case, the appropriate CRDN must be added to the competency evaluation form.

Beyond the activities and assignments outlined here, students are expected to spend a significant portion of their time in these rotations shadowing and engaging with practicing dietetic professionals. Where possible and relevant, students are encouraged to observe and engage with other professionals at the facility. This may be in the form of shadowing staff, or attending talks, conferences, or other special events.

Required Activities & Assignments

(NOTE: Preceptor will be responsible for evaluating student performance on all required assignments)

Public Health Department

1. Read a state or local health improvement plan. Create a logic model for an intervention related to nutrition, physical activity, or chronic disease, using evidence-based implementation strategies.
CRDN 1.3
2. Watch this [video](#) on Using Evidence in Public Health Decisions. Complete an evidence based public health resources worksheet (to be provided by UVM MSD Program) using the Community Guide and County Health Rankings & Roadmaps websites.
CRDN 1.3
3. Identify a community-based program that has been evaluated. Write a 2-page description and critique of the evaluation. Include a description of the program, its theoretical framework, program objectives, evaluation components (e.g., process, impact, outcome), data collection methods and evaluation tools used. Indicate what was learned from the evaluation and identify ways the evaluation could have been improved.
CRDN 1.3

4. Complete a 1-2-page reflection on the importance of evaluation and its importance in federal (CDC), state, and local/county public health programming.

CRDN 1.3

5. Complete online trainings on [Advancing Health Equity Through Power Building and Narrative Change](#). (Note that you will have to enroll in these two 1-hour free courses offered by the University of Michigan). Then complete a [cultural competence self-assessment](#) and write a reflection on health equity.

CRDN 2.11

6. Read the 4-page [Health in all Policies](#) overview and a Health Impact Assessment. Then, identify a federal, state, or local bill related to physical activity, nutrition, or chronic disease. Write a review of the bill identifying the programmatic, fiscal, legal and other implications for public health.

CRDN 2.14

7. Attend a community meeting with preceptor or assigned staff, then write a reflection on capacity building.

CRDN 2.9

8. Review State/public health websites designed to market public health programs. Choose one site and write a review using the best practices gleaned from [this paper](#) on Social Marketing and [these examples](#) of the World's Best Social Public Health Campaigns.

CRDN 3.3

9. Watch [this video](#) on Ecological Models. Read a completed needs assessment (state health assessment/community health needs assessment). Then prepare a proposal outlining a suitable community intervention that addresses all levels of the socio-ecological model.

CRDN 3.7, 4.4

10. Complete quantitative data scavenger hunt (additional instruction to be provided by UVM MSD Program).

CRDN 4.4

11. Develop qualitative questions and complete key leader interview.

CRDN 4.4

12. Complete a written literature review or annotated bibliography on a nutrition and public health topic deemed relevant by the preceptor. Include possible recommendations for community-specific changes related to the findings.

CRDN 4.4

13. Read [Vermont Healthy Community Design Resource: Active Living and Healthy Eating](#) or comparable state health department plan. Then complete both a food audit and a bike-walk audit in a local community.

CRDN 4.4

WIC

1. Observe the ways in which diversity and the importance of cultural competence and sensitivity show up in the WIC setting. Prepare a written reflection based on your observations, including impact on future practice. Discuss with preceptor.

CRDN 2.11

2. Research and write content for use in WIC participant e-newsletter or other participant communications.

CRDN 3.3

3. Review and learn the presenter materials for ~30 minutes' worth of some components (as directed by preceptor) of the USDA-FNS Breastfeeding Essentials found on [WIC Works](#). Present training back to WIC state staff and peers.

CRDN 3.4

4. Shadow in WIC clinic (at least 1/2 day). Write a reflection on WIC visit – include observations of and connections to health disparities and counseling techniques of certifier.

CRDN 3.6

5. Research and develop a lesson plan and educational materials for a WIC nutrition activity that could be used in local WIC programs - should include lesson plan with goal, learning objectives, and assessment.

CRDN 3.7

6. Participate in the following WIC Approved Product List (APL) activities:
 - a. Perform WIC Educational Buy – prepare for and shop for WIC foods
 - b. Review and determine approval for at least 3 food items for addition to the State's WIC approved product list based on review of federal regulations and State policy.

CRDN 4.3