



INDIAN  
INSTITUTE OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
HYDERABAD



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY  
FOR DISEASE SURVEILLANCE



# CERTIFICATE COURSE IN PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

(DISTANCE LEARNING)

Course Duration: 6 Months

Organized by: Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad

## Certificate Course in Public Health Surveillance (DISTANCE LEARNING)

### BACKGROUND

Health assessment has been highlighted as one of the three core functions of public health along with policy development and health assurance, in a 1988 landmark report by the Institute of Medicine (IOM). Public health surveillance, often called the cornerstone of public health practice, is an essential element of the health assessment function. Public health surveillance is the foundation for evidence informed and effective public health interventions. Surveillance is needed to understand and to monitor the epidemiology of health related events in order to set priorities and formulate strategies for appropriate public health actions. Surveillance system serves as an early warning system to identify disease outbreaks or public health emergencies; and as a tool to document impact of health interventions or to monitor progress towards specified public health goals.

The perennial threat of influenza pandemic, increasing drug resistance of microbes and vectors, and the ongoing Ebola crisis in West Africa have shown the importance of social, societal and systems determinants of disease occurrence and the risk they pose to national and global health security. States need effective surveillance systems with enhanced capacity to understand social determinants of health, incorporating advancements in epi-genetics and health informatics, with a health systems strengthening approach, in order to prevent, predict, detect and treat emerging and re-emerging health threats. While the Low and Middle Income countries (LMICs) are still grappling with the unfinished agenda of communicable diseases; the epidemiologic and demographic transition of their population

along with other factors is leading to constantly increasing burden of non-communicable disease. To tackle these challenges and reach the health related development goals – health systems in these countries will need effective public health information and surveillance systems to efficiently channelize and optimally utilize the limited resources for better health. Strengthening of surveillance systems is also required to meet the surveillance and response core capacity standards for compliance with the International Health Regulations (IHR) – 2005, and for national and global health security. This surveillance and response system strengthening need demands investment in human resource capacity building.

The certificate course in public health surveillance, by Public Health Foundation of India, in collaboration with the International Society for Disease Surveillance (ISDS), aims to build capacity of human resource in health care and allied sectors in the science and practice of public health surveillance. The course will build a pool of trained public health professionals who will have the knowledge of fundamentals and recent advances in public health surveillance and its application for more effective and sustainable actions to improve population health. The participants will be able to contribute towards health security and health equity, locally, nationally and globally.

### COURSE DESIGN AND DURATION

The course is designed as a six month Certificate Course. It is a distance learning online program, largely self-taught and complemented with online lectures and study material.



## COURSE ADMINISTRATION & LANGUAGE

The Certificate Course in Public Health Surveillance (CCPHS) will be offered by the Indian Institute of Public Health - Hyderabad (IIPH-H). English would be the language of instruction.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The course would be open to graduate and post-graduate students in medical, veterinary and allied health fields; professionals working with national health programs ; academic institutions; NGOs in health sector; UN agencies; or anyone with a relevant background and keen interest in the science and practice of surveillance.

Eligible candidates would be screened, based on their application and statement of purpose.

## COURSE OUTLINE

The certificate course will have three modules with 16 sessions equivalent to 16 credits: 1. Fundamentals and recent advances in public health surveillance 2. Public health surveillance networks, collaborations and surveillance in special situations 3. Public health surveillance for health security and health equity. Candidates will be required to complete a mentored project during the course. The project will offer an opportunity for the candidates to identify and tackle a surveillance problem; engage with surveillance experts and produce an application oriented output.

## TEACHING AND TRAINING METHODOLOGY

The course utilizes a blended online teaching/learning technique. The basic course structure includes a combination of interactive online computer-based sessions, weekly online virtual lectures, assessments

and recommended readings from journal articles and text books in a modular format. Online learning sessions would be conducted by designated faculty members and participants would be able to log on from their laptops / personal computers.

## SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Minimum bandwidth of 512 kbps (1 mbps recommended). Processor: Pentium 4 or equivalent and above. RAM: 512 MB and above (1 GB recommended). Supported browsers: Microsoft Internet Explorer 6 or later, Mozilla Firefox 2.x, 3.x or Google Chrome. Adobe Flash Player 10.1 for all types of operating systems. Supported Operating Systems: Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Mac OS, Linux, Solaris. Headset with microphone (web camera - optional)

## EVALUATION

Assignments and examinations at pre-determined intervals will serve to assess and provide feedback to the students. Students will be evaluated at the end of each module; through a final Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ)-based examination and evaluation of their project work at the end of the course

## COURSE FEES

For Indian candidates: ₹ 16,500 (INR); For South Asian Candidates: \$275 (USD); For other International candidates: \$ 550 (USD) The course fee is inclusive of complementary reading material, exclusive of recommended textbooks and journal articles.

The candidates from the World Bank list of LMICs will be eligible for a one year free membership of the International Society for Disease Surveillance (ISDS)\*

## Certificate Course in Public Health Surveillance (DISTANCE LEARNING)

Other Distance Learning Programs offered by Public Health Foundation of India/ Indian Institutes of Public Health are listed below

NAME OF COURSE/ PROGRAM	DURATION
Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health Nutrition	12 Months
Post Graduate Diploma in Epidemiology	12 Months
Post Graduate Diploma in Management of Reproductive & Child Health Programs	12 Months
Post Graduate Diploma in Health Promotion	12 Months
Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health Services Management	12 Months
Certificate/Post Graduate Diploma Course in Public Health and Hospital Management for Nursing and Allied Health Professionals	12 Months
Certificate Course in STI & HIV/ AIDS	6 months
Certificate Program in Research Methodology	6 months
Certificate Course in Managerial Effectiveness for Healthcare	6 months
Certificate Course on Monitoring & Evaluation of Health Programs	6 months
Certificate Course in Managing Human Resources for Health in India	6 months
Certificate Course on GIS Application in Public Health	6 months
Certificate Program in Health, Safety & Environment Management	4 months
Short Term Course on Tobacco Control	3 months
Short Course in Implementation Science for Public Health Interventions	6 Weeks

For further details, please contact

Program Associate

Academic Programs (Distance Education)

**Indian Institute of Public Health – Hyderabad**

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Phone: 91-40-49006000 | email: [ccphs@iiphh.org](mailto:ccphs@iiphh.org)

Link to apply: <https://cdl.phfi.org/>

(\*) The International Society for Disease Surveillance (ISDS) is a nonprofit professional organization with a mission to advance the science and practice of disease surveillance. ISDS members represent surveillance professionals across disciplines and sectors from 50+ countries. IIPH-Hyderabad is a collaborating partner of ISDS.

For membership benefits and more information about ISDS, visit [www.syndromic.org](http://www.syndromic.org)

“Improving population health by advancing the science and practice of disease surveillance”