



PUBLIC
HEALTH
FOUNDATION
OF INDIA



POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BIostatISTICS AND DATA MANAGEMENT

(AUGUST 2010 – JULY 2011)

Venue: Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad

POST—GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BIostatISTICS AND DATA MANAGEMENT

BACKGROUND

Public health in India is at crossroads, and any future growth will depend on investment in human capital as well as in developing the capacities of the health workforce. Biostatistics and Data Management is a key domain within the growing private and public sector activities in public health. To address these gaps in institutional training capacities, PHFI has prioritized a specialized training in this discipline by offering a Post-Graduate Diploma in Biostatistics and Data Management. PHFI is proud to announce this program to its third batch of students. This post graduate program is presently being offered at IIPH, Hyderabad.

OBJECTIVES

- To equip quantitatively-oriented students with modern tools of data management and applied biostatistics that would lead them towards a career as practicing biostatisticians including database specialist.
- To enhance the skills of practicing biostatisticians and epidemiologists in the areas of medical research and public health.

COURSE DURATION

This is a one year fully residential program. Ten months teaching (including evaluation) + two months of internship.

ELIGIBILITY

Bachelor's degree in any discipline under the 10+2+3 system. Candidates having quantitative background and are interested in a career as biostatisticians or database specialist. The course is also open for health professionals having an interest and background in statistics and epidemiology. Proficiency in English would be desirable.

Eligible candidates would be screened, based on their application and statement of purpose by a specially constituted screening committee. Short-listed candidates would then be interviewed and the final list announced. Decisions taken by the selection committee will be final.

Preference will be given to in-service candidates nominated by the government for the program.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Public and private sector organizations, academicians and researchers in public health, medical colleges, hospitals, contract and clinical research organizations (CROs), pharmaceutical companies, those engaged

in National public health programs initiated by the Government of India (for instance, the Integrated Disease Surveillance Project) and research institutions.

COURSE OUTLINE

The course includes a range of topics covering a wide variety of applied biostatistical and data management techniques. The underlying theory behind biostatistics will be emphasized by adult learning techniques focusing on problem oriented, practical and applied skill development. The course content includes- introductory lectures in public health, biostatistics in health research, basic epidemiology and study designs, sampling and survey strategies, data processing and management, probability theory, sampling theory and inference, introduction to applied regression analysis and other multivariable methods, introduction to survival analysis and clinical trials. The mode of teaching for all biostatistical units will be a judicious mix of didactic lectures and hands-on training in Statistical packages SAS®, R and STATA®. The course is designed to provide a broad overview of biostatistical methods and concepts used in the public health sciences, emphasizing interpretation and concepts rather than calculations or mathematical details. The practical training in statistical packages is designed such that the candidates are expected to acquire adequate skills to appear for both, base and advanced certification in SAS® by the end of the course.

Special modules including Bayesian methods, advanced modules in Longitudinal and Time Series Data analysis, Operations in Clinical Research, Statistical Genetics, Modeling of Disease Surveillance Data, National Health Programs, Monitoring and Evaluation, Health Indicators & Health Surveys and Data Analysis using SPSS®, will also be offered depending on interest of the students.

Students will be evaluated based on assignments and application based projects which may comprise design, analysis, conduct and interpretation of results of field surveys and epidemiological studies. Further, the students are required to undertake a two month long internship as a statistical consultant in state health departments, medical colleges, other academic institutions, clinical research organizations, NGO or INGO's.

TEACHING AND TRAINING METHODOLOGY

Teaching methods would include lectures, lab-based exercises, article critiquing, group projects, simulation

studies, data analysis exercises, individual project work, statistical consulting and internship.

COURSE FEES

The course fee is Rs. 2 lakhs per year, per participant. The cost for tuition fee is Rs. 1 lakh and cost for boarding and lodging expenses is Rs. 1 lakh. The course fee for international candidates is USD 10,000, per year, per participant (includes tuition fee and boarding and lodging expenses).

ABOUT PHFI

PHFI, a public-private partnership, is a large uniquely designed & sustainable response to the service shortfall of public health professionals (needed in the government, NGO and private sectors) in India. The PHFI was launched on March 28, 2006 at New Delhi, by the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh. PHFI is autonomously governed and is managed by a fully empowered, independent, Governing Board that is represented by multiple constituencies. These constituencies include representatives from government, contributing philanthropists and leading Indian and international professionals.

The PHFI's charter includes the setting up of new institutes for public health education and training in various States, assisting in the enhancement of capacity of existing public health training institutions, pursuing vigorous research and advocacy efforts on public health and related issues.

The other programmes offered by PHFI at the various IIPs are as listed below:

Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health Management

This Diploma is a one year, fully residential course which aims to bridge the gap in public health managerial capacity amongst health professionals in the country. The development of managerial competencies is presently not a part of the formal medical/para-medical educational system. Hence, this program imparts the knowledge and skills to address and resolve key health management challenges.

Post Graduate Diploma in Health Economics, Health Care Financing and Health Policy

While it is known that enhanced knowledge and a better understanding of health economics is central to

more effective policy-making for better health services, strategic capacity and skills to do so, has been one of our key challenges. This 9-month semi-residential diploma course in health economics is designed mainly for mid-career professionals. It will provide a basic understanding of key issues in health economics and economic evaluation for informed decision and policy-making.

Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Research

The Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Research is a one year program which aims to focus on the scientific, ethical and operational issues related to clinical research. The multi-disciplinary curriculum will enable students to develop skills for research methodology and data management, special types of clinical trials and management and communication skills.

Masters in Public Health

This two year masters program aims to promote health systems and public health research and implementing solutions in institutional and field settings. It will prepare health professionals to work in socially, culturally and economically diverse populations by being attentive to needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. It will work towards imparting qualities of leadership among public health professionals and effectively use communication skills for health advocacy. Through this program we will train personnel in program organization and management, problem solving, and critical thinking in the health systems and the public health domain.

Epidemiology Distance Learning Course

PHFI is offering a distance learning course in epidemiology for those interested in learning basic concepts of epidemiology and developing epidemiology skills. This course will offer modules on six focus areas: Basic epidemiology, Practical epidemiology, Computer based Statistics, Communicable diseases, Non communicable diseases and writing research papers. There will be a strong emphasis on the applied aspect of epidemiology with numerous case studies and hands on exercises. The candidates enrolling in this program will be able to go through the course materials from their remote sites and will need to come for in class interaction with instructors only for a very short period.



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Program brochures and application forms are available on
the PHFI website www.phfi.org

Please submit your filled application form to the Public Health
Foundation of India, Delhi, at the address given below.

For other enquiries or nominations, please contact:

MANAGER

Academic Programmes

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