



Council *on* Education *for* Public Health

1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 220 • Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Phone: (202) 789-1050 • Fax: (202) 789-1895 • [www.ceph.org](http://www.ceph.org)

February 8, 2016

Vivian E. Green, PhD, MSc, LND  
Associate Dean for Public Health  
Ponce Health Sciences University  
PO Box 7004  
Ponce, PR 00732

Dear Dr. Green:

Thank you for submitting your CEPH annual report. At its January 22-23, 2016 meeting, the Council on Education for Public Health reviewed the annual report submitted by the Ponce Health Sciences University Public Health Program for 2014-2015. As you know, all accredited schools and programs of public health are required to submit an annual report to CEPH, using a prescribed format. The purpose of the annual report is to allow the accrediting body to monitor significant changes in the school or program between on-site visits. Specifically, CEPH uses annual reports to:

- 1) Identify any major changes that have occurred in the past year.
- 2) Identify any compliance concerns that may have newly arisen.
- 3) Identify and monitor growth at accredited institutions. Current US Department of Education regulations require us to “[monitor] the growth of programs at institutions that are experiencing significant enrollment growth.” (32 CFR §602.19 (d)) The regulations define “significant” growth as  $\geq 50\%$ , so CEPH’s threshold is 45%, as measured by the number of new enrollees.
- 4) Monitor graduation and job placement rates as measures of student achievement.
- 5) Review and assess financial information and other resources as indicators of program success.

The Council noted that the program’s DrPH graduation rate is below the established threshold. Based on the program’s response, the Council will not require interim reporting at this time. It will, however, expect to see compliance with established thresholds in subsequent years’ annual and other required reports.

You will receive an email in mid-September 2016 that will direct you to the weblink for this year’s annual reporting, and you can anticipate a due date of **December 9, 2016**. Please feel free to contact CEPH staff if you have any questions. They will be pleased to provide clarification or other assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ian Lapp'.

Ian Lapp, PhD  
President