



What is AEHAP?

The Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs (AEHAP) is a consortium of programs organized for the purpose of promoting and enhancing the education in the art and science of environmental health practice.

- AEHAP is concerned with the quality and quantity of Environmental Health professionals, so critical to our future well-being.
- AEHAP serves as a forum for the deliberation and as a mechanism for coordinating and mobilizing programs and professional organizations concerned with environmental education. In carrying out its mission the Association's functions include the following:
 - Promoting educational opportunities;
 - Enhancing the collection and dissemination of information about education and research in environmental health;
 - Supporting internships and practicum for faculty and students;
 - Promoting accreditation through the National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC);
 - Encouraging strategies for meeting future environmental health workforce needs;
 - Advancing applied research and service;
 - Supporting the professional growth and development of EH faculty.

For more information, please contact:

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AEHAP

ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

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What is Environmental Health?

Environmental health is the study of how environmental factors can harm human health, and how to identify, prevent, and control these effects. Environmental health specialists use a broad background of scientific, technical, and behavioral knowledge and skills to investigate, evaluate, and eliminate environmental conditions that may be harmful to people or communities. They plan and implement control programs in a variety of areas including ambient and indoor air quality, food, water and wastewater, noise, hazardous substances, solid wastes, land use, pests, and housing.

What is an Environmental Health Academic Program?

Universities and colleges offer undergraduate and graduate degrees in the environmental health sciences to:

- Prepare students for careers in public health, occupational health and environmental protection;
- Enhance the understanding and improvement of environmental health through research; and
- Contribute to communities through services at the local and national level.

“AEHAP has played a critical role in increasing the quality, number and diversity of the environmental public health workforce.”

— Pat Meehan,
Former Deputy Director, Centers for Disease Control (CDC),
National Center for Environmental Health and Agency
for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)



What does an Environmental Health Academic Program include?

An environmental health curriculum would include basic public health courses such as:

- Epidemiology
- Biostatistics
- Toxicology

It would also include courses covering topics such as:

- Water
- Waste Waters
- Food Safety
- Risk Assessment
- Solid and Hazardous Wastes
- Air Quality
- Environmental Regulation and Management

Can my College or University start an Environmental Health Program?

If you can answer yes to the following questions, you can most likely start an environmental health program.

1. Does your academic unit offer an environment-oriented program of study that is science-based?
2. Do the requirements for your program include: biology, chemistry, physics and math?
3. Do academic units on your campus offer any “health science” related courses?
4. Does your department want to learn how to incorporate “health” into your curriculum giving your students the opportunity to pursue a career in environmental health?

What are the benefits of being an accredited program?

- Only students from accredited programs are eligible to participate in the Commissioned Officer Student Extern Training Program (COSTEP) of the U.S. Public Health Service.
- Graduating from an accredited program ensures students have priority in USPHS hiring practices.
- Many state agencies give preference to graduates from accredited programs in their hiring practices. Graduation from an accredited program also facilitates sitting for the certifications programs for the EH Field.

Are funding opportunities available through AEHAP?

The Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs gives monetary awards to support development, enhancement, and sustainability of environmental health programs including:

- Student Research Paper Competition.
- Funding for Innovative Recruitment and Teaching Strategy Proposals.
- Minority recruitment strategies.
- Funding for the support of Minority Serving Institutions and their EH Programs.
- Other financial opportunities include a faculty teaching award, a stipend for a faculty practicum in the environmental health sector, grants for curriculum development and other great opportunities!

