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June 20, 2023

J. Don Chaney, PhD, MCHES
Chair, Public Health Program
University of Alabama
Sent via email

Dear Dr. Chaney:

On behalf of the Council on Education for Public Health, I am pleased to advise you that the CEPH Board of Councilors acted at its June 7-9, 2023 meeting to accredit the University of Alabama Public Health Program for a five-year term, with an interim report due in spring 2024.

I have attached a seal that reflects the program's accreditation status. Based on CEPH procedures, the program's initial accreditation date will be recorded as November 6, 2020.

The accreditation term extends until July 1, 2028, pending the program's continued documentation of compliance through the interim report, annual reporting, and any other reporting required by the Council.

The interim report will be due on April 4, 2024 and must address the criterion for which there were a "partially met" or "not met" assessment. Specifically, the interim report should provide evidence that the program has:

- a) amassed a complement of staff and other personnel adequate to support the program's mission and goals, which encompass instruction, scholarship, and extramural service. The report must explain how the program maintains appropriately high levels of performance in all of these areas and maintains the data collection and administration required for accreditation via its combination of program faculty, staff, and other personnel. (Criterion C3)
- b) implemented (or continued to implement) policies and practices to support faculty involvement in scholarly activities. The report should provide succinct narrative and data to demonstrate adequate support (Criterion E4)

Please be aware that failure to come into compliance with all accreditation criteria must trigger specific actions on CEPH's part. These actions, mandated in federal regulations governing accrediting agencies that are recognized by the US Department of Education, include initiating adverse action or, if good cause is demonstrated, extending by one year the period during which the program or school may come into compliance with the remaining criteria, after which CEPH must take adverse action. CEPH is required to deny or revoke accreditation when a school or program fails to demonstrate that it has come into compliance. Thus, interim reports have serious consequences. Additional information about preparing interim reports is available on the [CEPH website](http://www.ceph.org).

We are enclosing a copy of the Council's final accreditation report. The report is also being transmitted to the chief executive officer of your university as the Council's official report. This differs from the team's report that you received prior to our meeting in the following areas: the Council added language to Criteria B4 (Post-Graduation Outcomes), B5 (Alumni Perceptions), C3 (Staff & Other Personnel), and E4 (Faculty Scholarship) acknowledging the program's response to the site visit team's report.

I would like to call your attention to the disclosure provisions in our adopted procedures. You are expected to make the official accreditation report available to the public on request 60 days following the accreditation decision. ***You may make the report and final self-study available in full on your***

website or must clearly indicate on the website how to request a copy of either document. See Section 7 of the [Accreditation Procedures](#) for additional information.

You may append a written response whenever you distribute the report. The official report also will be available on request from CEPH after 60 days, but it is our intent to refer all initial requests to you. If you provide this office with a copy of a written response by July 31, 2023, we will be pleased to append it whenever we respond to a request for the report. Please note that this response is optional.

We would also like to remind you that whenever an accredited school or program undergoes a substantive change, it is obligated to provide written notification to CEPH of the intended change. Substantive changes are defined in the procedures manual, but generally include adding or discontinuing a degree or area of specialization, offering a degree program in a different format or at a distant site, and making major revisions to the curricular requirements. Additional information about substantive changes is available on our [website](#).

We appreciated the many courtesies and helpfulness extended to the site visit team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Blakely". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Craig" and last name "Blakely" clearly distinguishable.

Craig Blakely, PhD, MPH
President