

Standard No.2: The Purpose of the Study Program

The study program has a clearly defined purpose and role in the educational system, which is available to the public.

Description (up to 500 words)

The Master of Public Health as study programme is performed through the Centre School of Public Health and Health Management as functional department of the Faculty of Medicine, Belgrade University. Faculty of Medicine is a state owned educational and scientific institution with a long tradition in teaching-educational, health and scientific research work. The basic purpose of the Master of Public Health is to ensure highest academic standards and provide public health competences in accordance with the global and European demand for academic education of public health professionals capable to respond to the rapid changes in public health challenges.

The Master of Public Health at Belgrade Faculty is strategically based on the principles defined in the Bologna declaration which our country adopted in 2003, the Republic of Serbia Law on Higher Education, University of Belgrade Statute, the Belgrade Faculty of Medicine Statute and faculty regulations related to the second cycle study programmes and to the work of Centre School of Public Health and Health Management (adopted in 2013). It is also based on the Bologna process, through Berlin (2003), Bergen (2005), London (2007) and Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve Communiqués (2009), and Budapest-Vienna Declaration on the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) (2010). In addition, the latest recommendation from communiqués are integrated (Bucharest 2012, Yerevan 2015 and Paris 2018). Master of public health train students to be able to develop, organise, manage, evaluate, and adjust intervention aiming at the promotion of health and at the reduction of present and forecasted public health challenges. Graduates in EHEA must be able to handle population health problems as well as man-made health systems and other man-made systems with health impact in a global context. This study program promotes European principles of rationalizing curriculums, the introduction of new types of classes and the method of continuing student work, as well as the participation of students as partners within the educational process.

The curriculum of MPH has been developed by cooperation and inclusion of good examples of those developed within European schools and departments of public health by more than 90 members of ASPHER (Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region) (from the aspect of quality, scope and methodological approach). Program content is subject to the process of accreditation, performed by the Accreditation Committee and the Scientific-Educational Council of the Belgrade School of Medicine. Upon the introduction of the new curriculum, the accreditation and reaccreditation of curriculums and syllabuses takes place every year, due to the program correction dictated by the success of their implementation during the previous school year. That is why the Curriculum and Syllabus Accreditation Committee cooperates closely with the School Development and Monitoring Committee which analyzes the problems and gives recommendations for overcoming them in the following academic year. These Committees include student representatives who participate actively in the definitive shaping of the program.

The MPH curriculum ensures the student training in using new ICT technologies in their future professional engagement as public health professionals. The orientation towards the profession grounded on good public health practice and science enables the continuing education of public health professionals in their respective professional areas of work and the third cycle of Bologna educational scheme – doctoral programmes of study.

The purpose and the role of the MPH as study programme is refereeing to gaining knowledge and

skills in analysis of complex public health problems, preparing solutions through public health strategies, programmes and their implementation, in global, regional and national environment, as well as implementation of essential public health functions / operations through affordable public health services aiming to prevent diseases, protect and improve population health and quality of life through organized efforts of society.

Record: Publication of institution (in print and electronic forms, web site of institution:
<http://www.mfub.bg.ac.rs>) – [Addendum 1.1](#)