



## Educational Opportunity for State, Local, and Tribal Health Department Staff.

The MT DPHHS Public Health and Safety Division Workforce Development Program is offering scholarships for state, local, and tribal health department employees who want to broaden their knowledge of public health and advance their education by obtaining a [graduate certificate from the University of Montana](#).

The programs offered are **Certificate in Public Health (CPH)**, **Certificate in Epidemiology (CE)**, **Certificate in Environmental Health Sciences (CEHS)**, and **Certificate in Public Health Administration (CPHA)**. We are currently accepting nominations for a Fall 2026 start. Each program consists of four courses to be taken over four **consecutive** semesters, total 15-month commitment.

### Eligibility

Staff who are interested in the program should discuss the opportunity with their supervisors.

- Staff must be nominated by their supervisor.
- Staff must hold a bachelor's degree.
- Staff must have one year of public health experience.
- Staff must work for a state, local, or tribal health department in Montana.

### Application Process

If this opportunity is appropriate, supervisors should nominate their staff using this [Nomination Form](#). Supervisors should be prepared to provide the following: agency information, nominee's name and job title, and brief narratives detailing how the opportunity supports the individual's agency/work unit and their individual professional development plan and the agency's financial need.

### Nominations are due December 19, 2025.

\*Once selected for sponsorship, participants must personally secure acceptance to the certificate program through the University of Montana. The certificate program requires an application, to include a personal statement, three letters of recommendation, CV or resume, and academic transcripts. UM application deadline is March 1, 2026.

### Guidelines of the Program

- State HD staff will be allowed up to six hours of weekly paid work time to complete coursework. Local and tribal HD supervisors will determine if this is appropriate and allowable for their staff.
- Participants are expected to complete the program in four consecutive semesters, graduating December 2027.
- Participants are expected to complete assigned work tasks within a 40-hour work week.
- Participants are expected to complete the four courses by earning a grade of "B" or better.
- Participants are expected to stay employed in their current work unit during the 15-month program and for at least one year after the Certificate is awarded.

### Contact information for the program:

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