

School of Public Health and Health Services  
Department of Health Services Management and Leadership  
Graduate Certificate in Community Health Center Management

The George Washington University (GWU) offers a new graduate Certificate in Community Health Center (CHC) Management. This online learning program is designed to develop managers who possess the skills and knowledge necessary for leadership positions in the unique Community Health Center environment. It is affiliated with the Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy and with the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). The inaugural class started in the Fall Semester 2011.

### Goal

The Certificate in CHC Management provides quality training for the next generation of CHC administrative and clinical leaders, offers opportunities for continuous life-long learning, and encourages sharing best practices among alumni. Graduates of the program will be able to:

- ◆ Assess community health needs;
- ◆ Communicate effectively within the organization and the community;
- ◆ Manage organizational change and promote organizational and clinical excellence;
- ◆ Use health information technology to increase operational efficiencies and improve clinical outcomes;
- ◆ Assure high levels of patient and community satisfaction;
- ◆ Manage the unique financing systems of community health centers.

### Executive Format

The certificate program offers 18 academic credits. Courses covering a full range of identified CHC competencies are offered over 3 semesters (one calendar year), allowing CHC managers to remain full-time on the job. Modalities include two on-site group sessions at GWU, individual online sessions and weekly interactive webinars and conference calls. Courses are taught by GWU faculty with health policy, finance and CHC management expertise.

### Value-Added Features

Unique value added features include: 1) a longitudinal team project directly related to a current local CHC initiative; 2) an on-site Capstone in Washington at the end of the program; 3) a reduced flat tuition rate of \$12,000; and 4) the ability to transfer all 18 earned Certificate credits to a full Masters in Health Services Administration (MHSA) degree at GWU.

### Admissions Requirements

- Bachelor's degree with a GPA of 3.0 or better
- Three (3) years experience in a CHC or community health related position
- An introductory course in accounting with a grade of B or better. Prerequisite may be fulfilled by completion of online "Accounting I" (Course: ACC101) from [www.Straightertline.com](http://www.Straightertline.com) at \$399
- A current resume
- GRE scores within the past 5 years (Scheduling information at [www.ets.org/gre/](http://www.ets.org/gre/))  
*[Note: Applicants with any type of graduate degree are exempt]*
- A short narrative related to your CHC career interests (not to exceed 250 words)

### Online SOPHAS Application Deadline

April 15, 2012 for the 2012 Fall Semester 2012. Classes begin August 27, 2012.

### Contact

For more information, please contact the Program Director, Merle Cunningham, MD, MPH, at [merlec@gwu.edu](mailto:merlec@gwu.edu).