

Proposal Date: 9/12/2011

**College of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Proposal to Revise A Program
(Action Item)**

Contact Person: Darlene L. Shearer, Darlene.shearer@wku.edu, 745-5868

1. Identification of program:

- 1.1 Current program reference number: 152
- 1.2 Current program title: Master of Public Health
- 1.3 Credit hours: 42

1. Identification of the proposed program changes:

- Program-specific admission criteria for NAVITAS students (detailed below)

3. Detailed program description:

Current Admission Requirements for International Students (this will remain in place)	New Admission Requirements Only for International Students Who Enroll thru NAVITAS
1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution or its equivalent	1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution or its equivalent
2. At least an undergraduate minor in health, or previous education in the sciences basic to health	2. At least an undergraduate minor in health, or previous education in the sciences basic to health
3. A minimum GAP score (product of applicant's undergrad GPA and the GRE general test score) of 2200	3. A minimum GAP score (product of applicant's undergrad GPA and the GRE general test score) of 2200
4. A recommended GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale	4. A recommended GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
5. If applicable, Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam: minimum score of 550 on the paper-based TOEFL; or minimum of 79 on the Internet-based TOEFL (IBT); or a minimum of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS)	5. If applicable, Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam: minimum score of 525 on the paper-based TOEFL; or minimum of 69 on the Internet-based TOEFL (IBT); or a minimum of 5.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) English language assessments waived provided candidate earns a "B" or higher in each of the graduate (500 level) courses taken in the NAVITAS Pre-Master's program.
6. Minimum total GRE score of 1000 (additional guidelines for verbal, math, and analytical writing scores will be applied during departmental review)	6. Minimum total GRE score of 1000 (additional guidelines for verbal, math, and analytical writing scores will be applied during departmental review) GRE waived provided candidate earns a "B" or higher in each of the graduate (500 level) courses taken in the NAVITAS Pre-Master's program.
7. Submission of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a written statement of purpose• a resume• 2 letters of academic reference	7. Submission of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a written statement of purpose• a resume• 2 letters of academic reference

4. Rationale for the proposed program change:
NAVITAS Student Requirements

- 4.1 The Master of Public Health program (MPH) is requesting that the GRE requirement be waived for NAVITAS international students as described in item 4.3 below. Without a GRE it would not be possible to calculate a GAP score.
- 4.2 NAVITAS requires minimum TOEFL scores for candidates to be admitted directly into the Pre-Master's Program (PMP). The MPH Program requests using these minimum scores with the condition that the candidate complete one full semester in the PMP program. Exposure to a semester of graduate level courses taught in English should enhance language skills of the student candidate.
- 4.1 NAVITAS provides international students with a semester of graduate level courses in its Pre-Master's program, allowing time for students to become accustomed to the US academic environment. The 9 credit hours of courses required in the Pre-Master's program include a foundational research methods course (EDFN 500), a leadership and communication skills course (LEAD 500), and an academic writing course – areas that the MPH Program has previously identified as problems that affect the ability of international students to do well in the program and thereby, most are conditionally admitted to the program and required to take an academic writing course during their first semester. Therefore the MPH program agrees to waive the GRE with the condition that the candidate completes the NAVITAS Pre-Master's program and earns a "B" or higher in each of the courses taken in this program. Furthermore, the MPH program has determined that graduate courses taken by students while in the PMP program may not be used to meet course requirements of the MPH Curriculum.
- 4.2 The MPH Program requests that admissions requirements for international students and NAVITAS students be listed in two separate sections in the Graduate Catalog to distinguish different requirements for these groups.

5. Proposed term for implementation: Fall 2012

6. Dates of prior committee approvals:

Department of Public Health: 9/13/2011

CHHS Graduate Curriculum Committee Sept. 20, 2011

Graduate Council 10/13/2011

University Senate

Attachment: Program Inventory Form

