Julia Jones Matthews Department of Public Health

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Dear Stakeholders,

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Department of Public Health is in the application process for first-time accreditation through the Council on Education for Public Health and will host an accreditation site visit on February 1-2, 2018.

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) is the nationally recognized accrediting body for both schools of public health and public health programs. We are pleased to announce the MPH program is applying for initial accreditation and will be the first school or program to undergo accreditation process under the newly released guidelines. A public comment period is now open. TTUHSC DPH invites public input and accepts comments specifically focused on the Department of Public Health's compliance with national accreditation standards. These standards address the following key benefits to students:

*Comprehensiveness*: The CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health provide a variety of degrees in public health, including undergraduate, masters' and doctoral degrees in a number of area of study.

**Rigor.** Each CEPH-accredited school and program goes through a rigorous accreditation process on a regular basis to assure students of a quality educational experience.

*Flexibility*: Many CEPH- accredited schools and programs of public health offer online programs, dual degree programs and executive programs.

**Qualification**: Eligibility to sit for the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam, administered by the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE).

*Opportunity*: Eligibility for public health internships and fellowships sponsored by various federal agencies, as well as student assistance resources that are available only through accredited schools and programs.

**Recognition**: Because CEPH-accredited schools and programs are peer-reviewed, students can be sure their institution has met the standards established by CEPH.

For a more information on CEPH accreditation, please feel free to visit their website: <a href="http://www.ceph.org">http://www.ceph.org</a>

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, email your comment or question to Michael.D.Mitchell@ttuhsc.edu. Comments on TTUHSC DPH's application will be most useful if received by Friday, December 1st, 2017. Our mission is to prepare innovative leaders to improve the health of populations through community involvement, interdisciplinary training and education, research, service, and practice. We thank you for the trust you have placed in us to carry out our work. Receiving accreditation is our way of upholding the standards and practices you deserve.

All the best,

Courtney Queen, PhD Assistant Professor CAB Chair Michael Mitchell, MPH Director of CEPH Accreditation