

## Distinction in Community Health

The MD with Distinction in Community Health is an option for students who make significant longitudinal contributions to community service, excel in community health improvement, and engage in learning about current issues and topics in community health throughout medical school.

Those who are interested in earning Distinction in Community Health should register to be Candidates for Distinction in Community Health by registering for INT500. This will give you access to a Blackboard course for Distinction Candidates that has all the information you will need. There is no 'down side' to registering for INT500 and registering does not commit you to completing Distinction. By registering to INT500 you will be invited to community health learning events and funding announcements, and announcements about how to successfully complete the requirements for Distinction in Community Health.

### Requirements for Distinction in Community Health

| Requirement   | Completion  |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Significant longitudinal contributions to community services which includes a total of 140 hours of community service in SRO hours, which can include hours with community agencies for Distinction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 1: 40 hours of SRO</li> <li>• Year 2: 40 hours of SRO</li> <li>• Year 3+4: Combined 60 hours of SRO</li> </ul>  | <p>Hours should be logged with the CACHED office and can be directed towards your community health improvement project</p> <p>Statement of Body of Work to be included in portfolio summarizing SRO work</p> <p>Letters of Support showing commitment to community health improvement</p>   |
| <p>2. Engagement in learning about current issues and topics in community health throughout your medical school education</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Attend 3 sessions of other Distinction Candidates discussing their work</li> <li>b. Attend 4 Public Health Grand Rounds</li> <li>c. Complete the MOOC for Community Engagement in Population Health (for classes after 2023)</li> </ol>                             | <p>These should be completed in first, second or third phase and recorded on Blackboard in your Distinction Portfolio.</p>  |
| <p>3. Excellence in community health improvement</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Excel in CHIC (Community Health Improvement Course) during fall of 4<sup>th</sup> year including the completion of a community health improvement portfolio during the course</li> <li>b. Disseminate results of community health improvement project during Distinction in Community Health Forum (February 4<sup>th</sup> year)</li> </ol> | <p>Briefly present project orally during CHIC course and submit presentation to portfolio</p> <p>Complete portfolio on Blackboard to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abstract</li> <li>• CHIC presentation</li> <li>• Body of Work statement</li> <li>• Reflections and Impact</li> <li>• Letters of Support</li> <li>• Dissemination Plan for Forum</li> </ul> <p>Dissemination of results at Community Health Forum: Either an oral presentation, summary paper, poster presentation, video of work, other.</p> |

## Benefits for Candidates for Distinction in Community Health

- Successful Candidates for Distinction will be informed and recognized at Commencement
- During CHIC, Candidates can work independently on their projects
- Candidates develop and implement longitudinal projects leading to true community health improvement with education and mentoring throughout
- Candidates receive invitations to community health events, grand rounds, and funding opportunities, if registered for INT500
- Dissemination at Distinction in Community Health Forum can be added to resume and qualifies candidates for community awards which include a cash gift and recognition at the Final Class Exercise. Awards include:
  - The Costanza Community Impact Award: Given to the Distinction Candidate whose work exemplifies outstanding community engagement with the greatest potential for sustainable impact on the health of the community
  - Excellence in Community Health Award: Given to the Distinction Candidate whose work demonstrates significant scholarship in community engagement through academic rigor, robust evaluation, and substantial dissemination

## Process for Distinction in Community Health

| <i>Phase of Medical School</i> | <i>Recommended actions</i>   |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Phase 1 (First year)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Register for INT500<br><input type="checkbox"/> Complete 40 SRO hours – consider community partners for project<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend Community Engagement Symposium<br><input type="checkbox"/> Complete the MOOC for Community Engagement in Population Health (for classes after 2023)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend Public Health Grand Rounds (PHGR)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend 4 <sup>th</sup> Year Distinction presentations including the Forum   |
| Phase 2 (Second year)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Submit project proposal on Blackboard identifying project<br><input type="checkbox"/> Complete 40 SRO hours – working with community partners on project<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend Public Health Grand Rounds (PHGR)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend 4 <sup>th</sup> Year Distinction presentations including the Forum   |
| Phase 3 (Third year)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Complete SRO hours with partner project as able<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend Public Health Grand Rounds (PHGR) as able<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend 4 <sup>th</sup> Year Distinction presentations including the Forum if able<br><input type="checkbox"/> Discuss project with Mentor from Distinction Committee   |
| Phase 4 (Fourth year)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Successfully complete CHIC course before December <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complete portfolio (project abstract, body of work, reflection, letters of support, dissemination plan)</li> <li>○ Present work to class and submit presentation to portfolio</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> Complete project with partner and summarize with dissemination<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attend Public Health Grand Rounds (PHGR) to complete a total of 4<br><input type="checkbox"/> Disseminate work at the Distinction in Community Health Forum |

## Selection of Distinction in Community Health

The SMD's Faculty Committee on Distinction in Community Health will serve as the selection committee for the MD with Distinction in Community Health designation. The Committee will review the Candidates' portfolios and select the MDs for Distinction. When possible, students will present their work in person to the Distinction Committee through poster, presentation or other form appropriate for the student's work at the Distinction in Community Health Forum.

- a. The candidates selected for the MD with Distinction in Community Health will be informed at Commencement. (Students selected for Distinction in Community Health who delay their graduations will have their Distinction in

Community Health announced at Commencement the year they graduate.) Therefore, the Distinction **WILL NOT** be included in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) of Candidates.

- b. There is not a minimum or maximum number of Candidates to be granted Distinction. Evaluation will be based on a scoring systems weighing the portfolio, community health content, and dissemination of improvement project. Evaluation rubric is shared on Blackboard.
- c. Currently, the Chair of the Faculty Committee on Distinction in Community Health is Kevin Fiscella, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine.

### **Resources**

Theresa Green, Ph.D., MBA

Distinction Coordinator

Director of Community Health Policy and Education

Center for Community Health and Prevention, URMC

585-275-1464

[Theresa.Green@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Theresa.Green@URMC.Rochester.edu)

Carolyn Settle, MPH

Distinction Support

585-224-2061

[Carolyn.Settle@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Carolyn.Settle@URMC.Rochester.edu)

### **OME Resources**

Adrienne Morgan, PhD

Senior Director, CACHED Office (G-9554)

585-275-7203

[Adrienne.Morgan@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Adrienne.Morgan@URMC.Rochester.edu)

Emily Anderson

Administrative Assistant

585-275-2928

[Emily.Anderson@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Emily.Anderson@URMC.Rochester.edu)