



03 June 2014

WE NEED ASSESSORS – CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?

Dear colleague,

Here at UKPHR we have been registering multi-disciplinary specialists in public health professional practice for 10 years. We began registering public health practitioners in 2011.

Our primary purpose is public protection and to promote public confidence in public health professionals' practice UK-wide.

Registration assures the public and employers that multi-disciplinary specialists and practitioners in public health are appropriately qualified and competent. Our standards are recognised throughout the United Kingdom. They help protect the public from unprofessional or unethical behaviour and promote continuous improvement in public health practice.

Being registered enhances professional recognition of public health practice by employers, other professionals and the public.

We are greatly assisted already by a group of senior public health professionals who voluntarily provide our assessment capacity for enabling more public health specialists to achieve registration with UKPHR. But we need more capacity.

All assessors are trained (one and a half days for new assessors and less than one day refresher courses for returning assessors). Clear guidance is provided and support is given through buddying, moderation and development days. The next training session for new assessors will be in Autumn 2014.

Please will you volunteer to become an assessor on the UK Public Health Register?

The rewards of being an assessor are significant:

- Each portfolio is different, offering unique public health learning opportunities
- These learning opportunities are recognised by the Faculty of Public Health and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours may be claimed after completion of an assessment (dependant on your own professional body). These hours are, as always, based on reflection
- Experience of assessment strengthens your CV
- It's a way of giving back to the public health service that has supported you

Candidates will have extensive experience at a senior level in service, management and/or academia. It is desirable that candidates have experience with a professional examining body of assessing at specialist level, and/or experience as an educational supervisor/trainer for trainees on regional training programmes. Professional recognition with an appropriate professional regulatory body at a national level is a requirement.

Additional requirements are that candidates must:

- Be skilled in assessing evidence submitted to demonstrate competence in knowledge and its application in practice ('shows')
- Be thoroughly conversant with the public health competences required for registration
- Be able to maintain independence and impartiality in the role
- Be willing and able to devote the necessary time (a minimum of two portfolios assessed each year, approximately 10 hours to assess a portfolio on average) and to give the task appropriate priority

Assessors will be appointed for an initial term of three years, with an option for renewal.

The position of assessor is an unpaid role, but appropriate expenses are paid.

Assessors must also attend at least one Registration Panel meeting every 18 months, and join other Registration Panel meetings by teleconference whenever assessments they have been involved with are considered.

If you want to benefit from being an assessor for UKPHR please send your application in writing to register@ukphr.org by **31st July 2014**.

Your application should include:

- Your statement as to why you would like to become an assessor and why your experience is suitable
- Any documentation relevant to your application; and
- Your CV.

A reference will be required prior to formal appointment, so please state at least one referee who will provide a reference as to your professional competence.

Your application will be considered by UKPHR at the beginning of August and you will be advised of the outcome within 6 weeks thereafter.

The UKPHR looks forward to hearing from you and if you require anything further please do not hesitate to contact David Kidney at register@ukphr.org.

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