



## Professional Experience Guidelines

The Professional Experience Guidelines (PEGs) encourage the development of critical competencies in epidemiologic process, communication and professionalism. These guidelines are similar to those used in Field Epidemiology Training Programs around the world. The Canadian Field Epidemiology Program requires all Field Epidemiologists to complete eight PEGs during their two years of training:

- Conduct at least one field investigation of a disease outbreak or other potentially serious public health problem that requires a rapid response. This can be infectious or non-infectious in nature, and should involve direct contact with persons affected. The Field Epidemiologist will become proficient in the conduct of outbreak investigations by assuming increasing responsibility for such field studies. Second year Field Epidemiologists often have the opportunity to supervise junior trainees in the field.
- Design, conduct, and interpret an epidemiologic analysis of a new or existing database. Make appropriate public health recommendations based on the results of the analysis. The data set should be of sufficient size and complexity to allow assessment of potential confounders or effect modifiers.
- Design, implement, revise or evaluate a public health surveillance system. Each Field Epidemiologist must evaluate the surveillance of a health event pertinent to their placement. The proposed evaluation plan and the results of the evaluation will be presented during the fall courses. For this learning objective, Field Epidemiologists should not design a hypothetical surveillance system. The learning in this exercise comes from being able to assess the public health impact or contribution of an existing surveillance system to the 'real world'.
- Submit for publication to a peer-review journal, a paper based on one of the above.
- Submit a report to the *Canada Communicable Disease Report* or *Chronic Diseases in Canada*.
- Give an oral presentation at a seminar sponsored by the CFEP or Health Canada.
- Prepare a presentation for a national or international scientific conference.
- Respond appropriately to written or oral public health inquiries from the public, government officials, or other health professionals. Participate in the preparation of ministerial briefings and responses to media inquiries.