

1. Field Epidemiology Training Program

All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health, Kolkata (AIIPH), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India established in 1932 as the first Public Health school in the South-East Asia region, is a pioneer institute of its kind dedicated to teaching, training, and research to ensure Public Health capacity building.

AIIPH in collaboration with the National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi (NCDC), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, has initiated a one-year, on-the-job Intermediate Field Epidemiology Training Program (I-FETP) for the state health service officials of West Bengal, Jharkhand, and North-eastern states of India.

NCDC functions as a National Centre of Excellence, focusing on training, research, and service support for disease prevention & control, and plays a vital role in public health activities, including outbreak investigation & control, and various field epidemiology training programmes (FETP).

I-FETP is modelled on the India Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) programme - an initiative by NCDC, in collaboration with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, USA. The salient details are:

2. Objectives of I-FETP

- Enhancing the skills and capacity of the State/District Epidemiologists, Surveillance and Program Officers in the Field Epidemiology.
- Improving data collection, analysis, interpretation, and communication skills.
- Improving the quality and effective utilization of surveillance/ program data for appropriate decision making.
- Strengthening the health system's capacity to respond to public health emergencies such as COVID-19

3. Core Competencies

- Surveillance/program data analysis
- Outbreak detection, investigations and public health response
- Epidemiological investigations
- Writing scientific abstracts, and reports
- Delivering oral presentations to scientific and non-scientific audiences

4. Eligibility Criteria

- Working as an epidemiologist or in a public health position at the state or district level (as regular or contractual public health official); **age less than 50 years.**

5. Duration

- In-service program with a duration of one year.

6. Course Schedule

- First batch to start tentatively from August 2025
- Five Contact Sessions of duration 5-6 days per week at a 2.5-month interval
- Regular field mentor support
- Field activities of 47 weeks (on-the-job, at posting place)

7. Selection Process

- NCDC/ Screening Committee will review the submitted applications and supporting documents. Candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria will be shortlisted and interviewed by the Selection Committee.

8. Organization of the Training Program

- Salient feature of the training is its approach of 'learning by doing'. The training is primarily 'on the job' rather than classroom teaching. The training's primary focus is to develop applied epidemiologic skills under a mentor in a field assignment. Periodic short classroom contact sessions are held to prepare/ guide the officers for their field assignments. Weekly webinars offer opportunities for additional instructions, practice presentations, and capacity building.
- One year's program duration comprises 5 contact sessions at AIIPH (5 weeks) and on-the-job training (47 weeks). **The Officers will continue to work in their parent department except during the contact sessions.**
- The officers will work closely with the mentor and other supervisor(s), as assigned, to complete the Core Activities of Learning (CALs).

9. Core Activities of Learning (CALs)

The CALs are activities that provide opportunities to develop proficiency in critical epidemiologic competencies. The competencies are based on the following skills required to do the job of a practicing field epidemiologist.

- Surveillance/ Program data analysis

- Field/outbreak investigation/Program Implementation planning
- Evaluation of Health/ Surveillance program (group activity)
- Epidemiological study (group activity)
- Scientific abstract(s)/brief report/ oral presentation

10. Mentorship/ Supervision

- During the training, each officer is assigned to an expert mentor and a co-mentor from AIHPH/ other partner organizations. The mentors work closely with the FETP officers during the training duration to complete the CALs. Technical support is also provided by identified subject matter expert as per the requirement of the CAL.

11. Course Fee

- Nil

12. Benefits of Training Program

- The Officer will lead program, design monitoring systems, analyze, and interpret the program data to improve its implementation. The Officers will be trained in these activities during the training and will continue to use their expertise after training.
- The officers will become highly skilled practicing epidemiologists equipped to use implementation research methods to evaluate the program and design epidemiological investigations. They will aid in strengthening the public health systems' capacity of the participating State/ UT/ Organization.

14. Certification

- A certificate of completion, jointly signed by AIHPH and NCDC, will be awarded to the Officer on completing all the planned Core Activities of Learning (CALs).

15. Nominations and Application

- The application form and other details, including a link for the online application form, are **available on the AIHPH website (<https://aiihph.gov.in>) & NCDC website (<https://ncdc.mohfw.gov.in>)**. The last date for receiving nominations is 15/07/2025

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**INDIA
FETP**



Intermediate Field Epidemiology Training Programme (I-FETP)

Fully Sponsored One Year In-Service Training



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