

## Professional Education

Looking to better expand the depth and breadth of your professional knowledge base is always a good idea regardless if you are a junior or senior level officer. Especially, when it comes to improving the quality of service you provide to your OPDIV, helping to better serve the public, and attempting to protect, promote and advance health and safety of our Nation. Unfortunately, working full-time, sometimes living in remote locations, and having obligations outside of work often make this difficult.

There are presently 46 schools in the country that are accredited by the Association of Schools of Public Health and considered by many to be the premier academic institutions for public health related training. Thankfully, over the past several years more and more of these schools have begun to offer their public health programming via distance-based technology. Many of these schools offer a wide-array of public health related concentrations ranging from nutrition to child and adolescent health to disaster management to biostatistics and everything in between.

Regardless of rank or present level of education, being more educated about public health is important for each of us to better serve and fulfill the mission of the USPHS. If you are interested in obtaining additional quality education from very reputable academic institutions that have a variety of public health related programming flexible to the present needs of today's USPHS Dietitian Officer, research distance education on the Association of Schools of Public Health website at: <http://www.asph.org/>.

An additional resource for finding online schools of public health is GradSchools.com at <http://www.gradschools.com/search-programs/online-programs/public-health-epidemiology>. This website contains a list of 145 online graduate programs in Public Health (119), Epidemiology (12), Health Communications (19) and International Health (10). For each of the programs listed, there is a brief summary of the program as well as links to the program site. In addition, there is also a link to request information for each program.

Another great resource is the USDA National Agricultural Library available at [http://fnic.nal.usda.gov/nal\\_display/index.php?info\\_center=4&tax\\_level=1&tax\\_subject=270](http://fnic.nal.usda.gov/nal_display/index.php?info_center=4&tax_level=1&tax_subject=270). This website contains comprehensive links to a variety of nutrition related resources including online learning.