Criteria for affiliation to the REIP
This document was prepared under the coordination of the
Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO WHO)
About REIP

The Regional Network for Interprofessional Education of the Americas (REIP, Spanish acronym) constitutes a strategy of articulation and technical cooperation between educational institutions, professional organizations, and Ministries of Health and Ministries of Education, with the objective of promoting interprofessional education and collaborative practice in the health care in the Region of the Americas.

This network was proposed in 2016, within the framework of the meeting organized by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO): “Interprofessional education in health care: improve the capacity of human resources to achieve universal health,” which was held in Bogotá, Colombia.

The network was created in 2017 as a strategy among the countries interested in the development of interprofessional education, with the aim of contributing to the improvement of the quality of health services human resources for health education through the work of interprofessional teams.

Objectives of the Network

1. Propose actions for the development of Interprofessional Education (IPE) to achieve universal health.

2. Share experiences, information, scientific knowledge and evidence, methodologies and technological resources for teaching activities, and research and information on IPE.

3. Accompany, contribute to, and disseminate the actions taken by countries.

4. Identify common problems, interests and priorities related to the initial and continuing interprofessional education of health professionals, while generating shared options for transformation.

5. Potentiate the development of intersectoral and multicenter research among the members of REIP.

6. Give visibility to the situation and trends in interprofessional education on matters related to health, facilitating the identification of priorities and their development.

7. Support associations between IPE and professional practice to improve access to health by the population.
What is the REIP

The REIP is composed of representatives of the Ministries of Health and / or Education, representatives of universities, or national EIP networks in countries of the Region of the Americas that have presented their IPE plan for the years 2017-2019 to PAHO.

The countries that have already presented action plans for the implementation of IPE in their health human resources policies are automatically members of the REIP.

Currently, 19 countries of the Region of the Americas participate in the REIP.
How to join the REIP

Only national IPE networks established in countries formed by institutions that train human resources for health and health organizations can be affiliated with the REIP. Universities, organizations, health professionals that apply independently to be members of the REIP will not be considered.

To join the National EIP Network in your country, you must be committed to:

• Act and actively promote health through interprofessional practice and education;
• Engage health professionals and other professions equitably as partners;
• Respect and value the differences between professions;
• Apply the principles of equal opportunity between those professions;
• Promote parity among professions in a learning environment;
• Act, promote and support student-centered and user-centered, interactive education based on interprofessional education and collaborative practice;
• Promote and disseminate research on interprofessional education and practice;
• Share evidence and experience in interprofessional education and practice;
• Actively promote and support events, meetings, conferences of the REIP.

Requirements to join the REIP

1. Share the same values as the REIP.
2. Integrate activities among institutions, individuals, and government involved in education, health care, and policy.
3. Cover a region of a minimum of 2,000 people involved (students, teachers, managers, users of health services).
4. Present a biannual plan with activities that respond to the plan of action of the country 2017-2019 presented to PAHO, with an explicit focus on interprofessional education and collaborative practice.
5. Provide information to the REIP regarding its objectives, criteria, and membership structure (for example, the processes for consulting members to designate representatives).
6. Send the activity plan to the executive secretary of the REIP.

Acceptance criteria

Affiliation with the REIP National Network will depend on the proposal of the interested party, its plan of activities, alignment with the country’s IPE plan presented to PAHO. For countries that do not have IPE plans submitted to PAHO, it is recommended that the National Network contact the Ministry of Health and/or Education to discuss the formulation of a proposal plan.

Only countries affiliated with National IPE Networks will be accepted.

Affiliation decisions will be reached through the establishment of a consensus among the members of the Executive Secretariat of the REIP together with a commission composed of members of the REIP, which will be convened by the executive secretariat for the criteria evaluation. When this is not possible, or a consensus is not clear, a vote may be made. Each member of the executive secretary of the REIP has one vote. In most cases, votes will be cast openly, and decisions will be made based on the majority.

More information: www.educacioninterprofesional.org