Pre-Health Professions Program

Public Health (MPH, MS) Graduate Program Admissions

Public Health is the science and art of protecting and improving the health of a community, whether that community be as small as a neighborhood or as large as an entire country or global region. Individuals working in this area of health are tasked with protecting, promoting and improving the wellbeing of a community - physical, mental and social.

Public Health is a multi-facetted field and involves the application of many different academic disciplines including Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, Anthropology, Psychology, Sociology, Education, Engineering, Medicine and Business. Public Health is often sub-divided into areas of specialization, the most common being:

- Biostatistics
- Community Health Education & Promotion
- Epidemiology
- Environmental & Occupational Health
- Health Policy and Management.

The wide range of specialization means that preparation to enter a Masters of Public Health or Master of Science in Public Health degree requires different academic and experiential preparation. Admission to most Public Health graduate program requires the following:

- Bachelors degree from an accredited College/University
- Appropriate pre-requisite coursework (if required)
- Minimum GPA 2.75-3.0 (accepted students usually have much higher GPAs)
- Satisfactory GRE scores (acceptable scores vary by institution)
- *curriculum vitae* or resume
- Personal Statement (including goals & objectives)
- College academic transcripts
- Recommendations (3).

Application for MPH programs is through the centralized application service – SOPHAS (Schools of Public Health Application Service). Application for MS programs is through the Graduate School at individual institutions.

Recommended Courses for all Public Health Disciplines

Subject	*Recommended BC Course options*
Biological Sciences / Human Biology (1 - 2 years; depending on program)	BIO 110: Modern Biology BIO 220: Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy BIO 222: Microbiology BIO 323: Principles of Physiology BIO 330: Genetics BIO101/102: Anatomy & Physiology I/II CFS120: Lifespan Human Development CHM 340: Biochemistry I (biomolecules) HHP 315: Motor Behavior Across Lifespan HHP 335/340: Integrated Biomech Exer Phys I/II
Mathematics (1 year)	MAT 115: College Algebra MAT 135: Calculus Statistics (ECO 250, SOC 340, PSY 225)

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Additional Prerequisite Courses for Public Health Sub-Disciplines*

Sub-discipline / Subjects	*Recommended BC course options*
Biostatistics	
Mathematics	
Calculus I, II, III	MAT 135, 225 and 330
Probability	MAT 311
Computer Science (1-2 years)	CSC 114: Business Appl & Programming
	CSC 226: Software Design & Implementation
	CSC 236: Data Structures
	CSC303: Theory of Computation
	CSC 330: Database Systems
	CSC 410: Computational Intelligence
Social Science (1 year)	PSY 100: General Psychology
	PSY 211: Social Psychology
	SOC 100: Sociology of Everyday Life
	SOC 110: Problems of American Institutions
Environmental & Occupational Health	
Inorganic Chemistry (1 year)	CHM 131: Accelerated General Chemistry
	CHM 311: Quantitative Analysis
Organic Chemistry (1 year)	CHM221: Organic Chemistry I
	CHM222: Organic Chemistry II
Biology (1 year)	BIO110: Modern Biology
	BIO222: Microbiology
	BIO323: Principles of Physiology
	BIO330: Genetics
	BIO331: Developmental Biology
Physics (1 year)	PHY 217: Physics I
	PHY 218: Physics II
Mathematics (1 year)	MAT 135: Calculus I
	MAT 225: Calculus II
Epidemiology	
Biology/Human Biology (1-2 years)	See suggested options – page 1
Mathematics (1 year)	
Calculus (1 or 2 terms)	MAT 135, 225
Probability	MAT 311: Probability
Statistics	ECO 250 Applied Statistics
Social Science (1 year)	PSY 100: General Psychology
	SOC 100: Sociology of Everyday Life
	SOC110: Problems of American Institutions
Health (suggested)	HLT 215: Significant Issues in Health
	HLT 210: Health in Appalachia

*Admission course pre-requisites are not standardized across all Public Health graduate programs. Be sure to check the specific pre-requisite requirements of each school to which you are applying.

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Additional Prerequisite Courses for Public Health Sub-Disciplines*

Sub-discipline / Subjects	*Recommended BC course options*
Community Health Education and Promotion	
Social Science (1-2 terms)	PSY 100: General Psychology
	PSY 211: Social Psychology
	PSY 215: Health Psychology
	SOC 100: Sociology of Everyday Life
	SOC110: Problems of American Institutions
	CFS120: Lifespan Human Development
Health Related Sciences (2-3 terms)	CHM 113: Allied Health Chemistry
	BIO101/102: Anatomy & Physiology I & II
	BIO 110: Modern Biology
	BIO 222: Microbiology
Statistics/Research Design (1 term)	ECO250: Applied Statistics
	SOC340: Social Statistics
	SOC 335: Methods of Social Research
	PSY 225: Statistics and Research Methods - Behavioral Science
Health Education/Promotion (1 term)	HLT 315: Health Education & Promotion
Community Health Internship (1 year)	Contact Internship Office
Health (recommended)	HLT 215: Significant Issues in Health
	HLT 210: Health in Appalachia
Health Policy and Management	
Biological Sciences / Human Biology (1-2 terms)	See suggested options – page 1
Social / Behavioral Sciences (2 terms)	PSY 100: General Psychology
	PSY 211: Social Psychology
	PSY 215: Health Psychology
	SOC 100: Sociology of Everyday Life
	SOC 110: Problems of American Institutions
	SOC 223: Social Stratification and Inequality
	SOC 360: Sociological Policy Study & Evaluation Research
Economics (1 term)	ECO 101: Macroeconomics
	ECO 102: Microeconomics
Mathematics / Statistics (2 terms)	MAT 115: College Algebra
	ECO250: Applied Statistics
	SOC340: Social Statistics
Pubic Health Internship (1 year)	Contact Internship Office
Business (suggested)	BUS 315: Management
Political Science (suggested)	PSC 325: Public Administration
	PSC 330: State and Local Government

Professional Society Information & Links

American Public Health Association
https://www.apha.org
https://www.apha.org/become-a-member/student-membership

Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE)
www.sophe.org/

Association for Professionals in Infectious Disease and Epidemiology (APIC)
www.apic.org

American College of Epidemiology (ACE)
www.acepidemiology.org/

National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)
www.neha.org/

American Association for Health Education
www.aaheinfo.org

Biometrics Society (ENAR) (biostatistics)
www.enar.org/

American Statistical Association (ASA)
www.amstat.org/

AcademyHealth (health service & health policy)
www.academyhealth.org/