

# PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS (DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS)

James Hardin, *Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Curriculum*

The Arnold School Division of Academic Affairs administers the Master of Public Health in General Public Health, the Doctor of Medicine/Master of Public Health degree program, and the Certificate of Graduate Study in Public Health. Committees for the above programs make decisions regarding policy, procedures, admission criteria, and other matters concerning program implementation. Additional information regarding the M.P.H. in General Public Health and the dual degree program organization and management is available in the program handbooks. Copies are available through the Division of Academic Affairs.

## Program Admission Requirements Public Health, Certificate

Applicants to the Certificate of Graduate Study in Public Health must have, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree. While students currently enrolled in master of public health degree programs are not eligible for the C.G.S.P.H. program, students working on other graduate degree programs are eligible.

Requirements include:

- baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum GPA of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale; baccalaureate degree transcripts required;
- completed University of South Carolina application form and fee;
- letter of intent describing your interest in the certificate and specific career goals;
- curriculum vitae/resume;
- two letters of recommendation.

## General Public Health, M.P.H.

Applicants for the Master of Public Health in General Public Health must meet the general requirements of the University of South Carolina Graduate School. MCAT, DAT, GRE, or other equivalent test scores are required for all applicants. Among those offered admission in 2009 and 2010, the average GRE verbal score was 495 and the average GRE quantitative score was 625; the average undergraduate GPA was 3.51. Successful applicants for this program are expected to have an academic foundation in public health or health-related sciences, and substantive post-baccalaureate experience in clinical or public health settings.

International applicants to the Master of Public Health in General Public Health program are required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) in order to meet admission requirements. Applicants whose native language is not English are also required to submit a satisfactory score on the TOEFL or the IELTS Intl. Academic Course Type 2 exam. The minimum acceptable score on the TOEFL is 80 (internet-based). The minimum acceptable overall band score on the IELTS Intl. Academic Course Type 2 exam is 6.5.

Applicants must include an official transcript from each school or college previously attended (all prior post-secondary school study must be represented). Transcripts from any non-U.S. institution will need to

be verified by World Education Services (WES, <http://www.wes.org> or telephone: 212-219-7330). In addition, there must be at least three letters of recommendation and a detailed written statement indicating the applicant's area of interest and career goals, along with a current and complete resume.

Admissions process information and links can be found at the Arnold School of Public Health webpage: <http://www.sph.sc.edu/futurestudents/index.htm>. ([https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges\\_schools/public\\_health/](https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/public_health/)) Applications for the MPH program are made through the Schools of Public Health Application System (SOPHAS). Please go to <http://www.sophas.org> for further details. An applicant who has applied to the USC Preventive Medicine Residency program should apply through the Graduate School. All admissions applications are reviewed by a faculty committee representing the Departments of Environmental Health Sciences; Epidemiology and Biostatistics; Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior; and Health Services Policy and Management.

## General Public Health / Medicine, M.P.H. / M.D.

To be admitted to the Doctor of Medicine/Master of Public Health dual degree program, potential students must make application to and be accepted by both degree programs prior to matriculation. Therefore, applicants for the Doctor of Medicine/Master of Public Health must meet all entrance requirements for the Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) in either the USC School of Medicine or the Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine and the Master of Public Health in General Public Health in the Arnold School of Public Health.

All academic requirements for the University of South Carolina Graduate School, School of Medicine, and the Arnold School of Public Health are applicable to students applying to the dual degree program. For admission requirements for the Doctor of Medicine degree program, please contact the USC School of Medicine. Degree requirements for the Master of Public Health in General Public Health are described above. Applicants to the dual degree program should submit an application for the M.P.H. to the Graduate School.

Any student holding the M.D. or M.P.H. in General Public Health degree is not eligible for admission to the dual degree program.

## General Public Health / Pharmacy, M.P.H. / Pharm.D.

To be admitted to the Doctor of Pharmacy/Master of Public Health dual degree program, potential students must make application to and be accepted by both degree programs. To be admitted to the M.P.H. program, applicants must either have a completed bachelors degree or have completed at least 90 hours in the Pharm.D. program. Degree requirements for the Master of Public Health in General Public Health are described above. Applicants to the dual degree program should submit an application for the M.P.H. to the Graduate School.

Additional information can be found on the Graduate Dual Degree Programs (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/graduate/dual-degree-programs/>) page.

## Programs Courses

### **PUBH 678 - Transforming Health Care for the Future (1 Credit)**

Foundation for beginning health professions students to gain an understanding of the complexities of the health care system through experiential activities conducted in interprofessional teams and the importance of interprofessional collaboration in order to improve the system.

**Cross-listed course:** SOWK 678

### **PUBH 700 - Perspectives in Public Health (3 Credits)**

Seminar-format orientation to history, mission, and core services and disciplines of public health to develop understanding of current public health practice and how many health-related disciplines contribute to achieving public health goals.

### **PUBH 710 - Ethics and the Health Sciences (1-4 Credits)**

Students are introduced to formal and informal codes of professional conduct of various health science disciplines and understand the implications of these distinctions for interdisciplinary research, clinical practice, and administration.

### **PUBH 724 - Quantitative Methods for Public Health Practice I (3 Credits)**

Integrated review of quantitative methods to use in public health practice. Includes concepts from epidemiology, biostatistics, and environmental health used to calculate and interpret health indicators for describing the populations' health.

### **PUBH 725 - Quantitative Methods for Public Health Practice II (3 Credits)**

Introduction to epidemiology and biostatistics and their application to public health issues and practice. Covers basic epidemiologic, biostatistical, and data management techniques used to analyze and interpret data in the field of public health.

**Prerequisites:** C or better in PUBH 724.

### **PUBH 726 - Qualitative Methods for Public Health Practice (3 Credits)**

An introductory course on why, when, and how to apply qualitative data collection and analysis methods to public health activities with a focus on practice-based application. Identifying, working with, and communicating with a range of community stakeholders are also discussed.

### **PUBH 730 - Public Health Systems, Policy, and Leadership (3 Credits)**

A course on public health management and policy process and advocacy to develop effective public health leaders. Included is an emphasis on the relationships between people and their environment and the impact of the environment on human health and well-being.

**Prerequisites:** PUBH 725 and PUBH 726.

### **PUBH 735 - Practical Applications of Public Health Planning (4 Credits)**

A practical approach to planning public health programs through the application of planning frameworks and the exploration of fundamental issues in planning, implementing and evaluating programs in various settings addressing diverse populations and issues.

**Prerequisites:** PUBH 725 and PUBH 726.

### **PUBH 743 - Foundations of Health Disparities (3 Credits)**

Evolution of health disparities from historical, public, social, economic, and political perspectives.

### **PUBH 791 - Special Topics Public Health (1-3 Credits)**

Content varies by title.

### **PUBH 798 - Public Health Practice (1-6 Credits)**

Limited work experience or service project in an approved public health setting.

**Prerequisites:** BIOS 700 or BIOS 701 and EPID 700 or EPID 701.

### **PUBH 810 - Ethics in Public Health Research and Practice (1 Credit)**

Foundations of public health ethics with application to practice and to responsible conduct of research in public health disciplines. Enrollment restricted to Doctoral students & post-docs, master's students by permission of instructor.