

# ARNOLD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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## Overview

Public Health is an exciting and growing field of study. The field challenges its professionals to confront complex health issues, such as improving access to health care, controlling infectious disease, and reducing environmental hazards, violence, substance abuse, and injury. Professionals in Public Health come from varying educational backgrounds and can specialize in an array of fields. A host of specialists, including teachers, journalists, researchers, administrators, environmentalists, demographers, social workers, laboratory scientists, physicians, and attorneys, work to protect the health of the public. This is a field geared toward serving local, national, and international communities. Public Health professionals are leaders who meet the many exciting challenges in protecting the public's health today and in the future. The Arnold School of Public Health was established by legislative action in 1974 and has been fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) since 1979.

The mission of the Arnold School of Public Health is to improve population health and well-being by fostering innovative education and research that promotes health and healthy environments and will use that knowledge to prevent and effectively respond to disease, disability, and environmental degradation in diverse communities. An integral part of the training of students at the school is participation in research activities. Since the state is experiencing rapid demographic and industrial changes, health problems range from those of a traditional rural setting (infectious diseases, infant mortality, access to health care) to those of a modern industrial setting (impact of new industries on air and water quality and the safety of the workplace). The school has been committed to "action research" since its inception. The importance of dealing with operating programs and defined problems has led to close working relationships with human service programs, health care facilities, and governmental agencies throughout the state and region.

The school contains the Prevention Research Center, the Core for Applied Research and Evaluation, the Nutrition Consortium, the Cancer Prevention and Control Program, the Office for the Study of Aging, the Rural and Minority Health Research Center, the Consortium for the Latino Immigration Studies, the Center for Community Health Alignment, the PASOs Program, the Community Health Worker Institute and the Montgomery Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic.

## Degree Programs

The Arnold School of Public Health offers both the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree and the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree as well as two minors. The B.A. and B.S. in public health are interdisciplinary programs currently administered in the Division of Academic Affairs, while the Department of Exercise Sciences offers the B.S. in Exercise Science.

In addition, the school offers minors in Health Promotion, Education and Behavior and in Nutrition and Food Systems.

## Departments

- Communication Sciences and Disorders (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/public-health/communication-sciences-disorders/>)
- Environmental Health Sciences (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/public-health/environmental-health-sciences/>)
- Epidemiology and Biostatistics (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/public-health/epidemiology-biostatistics/>)
- Exercise Science (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/public-health/exercise-science/>)
- Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/public-health/health-promotion-education-behavior/>)
- Health Services Policy and Management (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/public-health/health-services-policy-management/>)
- Public Health Programs (Division of Academic Affairs) (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/public-health/public-health-programs/>)