

## MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health is the practice of helping members of society live healthier, longer lives by promoting healthy lifestyles through education and community engagement. More specifically, public health improves the general health of communities by monitoring the spread of diseases and supporting initiatives – both clinical and policy-oriented – to prevent disease and disability. Practitioners are educated in a wide array of academic and vocational fields, and they often collaborate on interprofessional teams to achieve goals.

### THE PROGRAM

The Master of Public Health is a professional degree designed for graduates and employees in health-related fields who hold a bachelor's degree or higher in their field of practice. In addition to completing the core course work, students in the program specialize in American Indian Public Health, Health Promotion, Management of Infectious Diseases, or Public Health in Clinical Systems. For more information on these specializations, visit [www.ndsu.edu/publichealth](http://www.ndsu.edu/publichealth).

The NDSU Master of Public Health program is applying for accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health, [www.ceph.org](http://www.ceph.org). Once approved, accreditation will be retroactive three years.

### MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS

Promote health and well-being in diverse populations with an emphasis on American Indian and other underserved populations by providing educational, practical and research opportunities for public health professionals.

**INSTRUCTION.** Prepare public health practitioners with sound knowledge and a skills base in public health.

**RESEARCH.** Engage in high-quality collaborative research that leads to advances in public health.

**SERVICE.** Provide service through community engagement and partnership to meet public health needs of citizens of North Dakota and the Northern Plains through consultation and collaboration.

**LEADERSHIP.** Build capacity of the existing public health workforce and act as a catalyst for leadership development, continuing education and innovation in North Dakota and surrounding states.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must hold a bachelor's degree from an educational institution of recognized standing.

Students must have adequate preparation in a field related to public health and show potential to undertake advanced study, research and practical training. GRE test scores (waived for students who have already earned a doctoral degree from U.S. accredited institution), previous experience and past academic performance are benchmarks for potential. Fields related to public health include, but are not limited to, biology; microbiology; health, nutrition and dietetics; health psychology and pre-med.

A student's undergraduate and graduate (if applicable) cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher. All graduate applicants must demonstrate academic-level proficiency with the English language before they will be considered for admission.

Applicants must submit a portfolio that contains a letter of intent for pursuing the Master of Public Health, an official transcript(s), letters of reference and a description of relevant work experience. Apply at [www.ndsu.edu/gradschool](http://www.ndsu.edu/gradschool).

### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Public Health degree is an interdisciplinary program with a minimum of 42 credits.

Core courses consist of 18 credits. All core courses are available through distance education.

At least 18 credits in an area of specialization

A practicum related to public health for three credits

A master's paper related to public health for three credits

## SAMPLE CURRICULUM

Fall:	Credits
MPH 731 Biostatistics.....	3
MPH 741 Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health.....	3
MPH 704 Leading and Managing Public Health Systems.....	3
<b>Spring:</b>	
MPH 751 Epidemiology .....	3
MPH 710 Health Care Delivery in the U.S.....	3
MPH 720 Environmental Health for Public Health Professionals .....	3
<b>Can be taken summer, fall or spring:</b>	
MPH 793 Master's Paper.....	3
MPH 794 Practicum.....	3
<b>18 credits within a specialization</b>	

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The American Public Health Association predicts a shortage of 250,000 workers by 2020. Currently, 25 percent of government public health workers are eligible to retire. Salary ranges for individuals with a Master of Public Health degree are \$40,000 - \$80,000, with discipline-specific health professionals such as physicians, nurses and pharmacists at an even higher wage. [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_stru.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_stru.htm)

## PUBLIC HEALTH CAREERS

Behavioral scientist  
Consultant  
Director of operations for public health offices  
Emergency management specialist  
Epidemiologist  
Extension agent  
Grant coordinator  
Health educator  
Health care manager  
Hospital administrator  
Infection control officer  
Medical and health service manager  
Microbiologist  
Non-profit executive director  
Policy analyst  
Public health officer  
Research associate  
Social and community service manager  
Water quality investigator

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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