

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health is the practice of helping people live healthier and longer by promoting healthy lifestyles through education and community engagement. Public health improves general health by monitoring the spread of diseases and supporting initiatives to prevent disease and disability. Practitioners are educated in an array of academic and vocational fields, and they often collaborate on interprofessional teams.

THE PROGRAM

The Master of Public Health is a professional degree designed for health professionals and students from a variety of backgrounds who have earned a bachelor's degree or higher in their field of practice.

NDSU's interdisciplinary program requires a minimum of 42 credits. All students complete 20 credits of foundational course work which focuses on core theoretical competencies used in all areas of public health. Students also must complete at least 18 credits in a specialization area (either epidemiology or community health sciences), an applied practice experience and an integrated learning experience.

Classes are offered on campus and through distance learning technology. Our class sizes are small and students work closely with faculty on research projects.

MISSION STATEMENT

To develop and empower public health leaders through interprofessional education, practice and research.

PROGRAM GOALS

Develop public health professionals through instruction that provides knowledge and skills reflective of public health science.

Engage in research that leads to advances in public health.

Foster collaborative relationships to provide service to address the complex challenges facing public health.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Minimum of 42 credits

Required foundational courses (20 credits)

PH 794 – Applied Practice Experience (3 credits)

Concepts and competencies learned through course work are integrated through a minimum of 240-hour practicum. A range of opportunities and settings are available and are tailored to assure competence in general public health and specialization-specific skills.

PH 789 – Integrated Learning Experience (1 credit)

During their last semester, students complete an integrated learning experience that demonstrates synthesis of foundational and specialization competencies based on the student's education and professional goals.

Specialization courses (18 credits)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree from an educational institution of recognized standing.
- Adequate preparation in a field related to public health and show potential to undertake advanced study, research and practical training. Previous experience and past academic performance are benchmarks for success. Fields related to public health include, but are not limited to, biology; microbiology; health, nutrition and dietetics; psychology; emergency management; and pre-med.
- 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 an application that contains a letter of intent for pursuing the Master of Public Health, an official transcript, letters of reference and a description of relevant work experience. Apply at <https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>.

SAMPLE CURRICULUM

	Credits
PH 731 Biostatistics.....	3
PH 741 Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health.....	3
PH 704 Public Health Management and Policy.....	3
PH 712 Public Health Research Methods.....	3
PH 745 Community Health Leadership.....	3
PH 706 Epidemiology.....	3
PH 720 Environmental Health for Public Health Professionals.....	2

Can be taken summer, fall or spring:

PH 794 Applied Practice Experience	3
PH 789 Integrated Learning Experience	1

18 credits within a specialization

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts an increase in public health related jobs such as health educators, epidemiologists and health service managers. Salary ranges for individuals with a Master of Public Health degree are \$45,000 to \$80,000 with discipline-specific health professionals such as physicians, nurses and pharmacists at an even higher range, www.bls.gov.

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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NDSU Land Acknowledgement

We collectively acknowledge that we gather at NDSU, a land grant institution, on the traditional lands of the Oceti Sakowin (Dakota, Lakota, Nakota) and Anishinaabe Peoples in addition to many diverse Indigenous Peoples still connected to these lands. We honor with gratitude Mother Earth and the Indigenous Peoples who have walked with her throughout generations. We will continue to learn how to live in unity with Mother Earth and build strong, mutually beneficial, trusting relationships with Indigenous Peoples of our region.

NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to: Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 201, 701-231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu.

For more information and to apply to the Master of Public Health program, visit www.ndsu.edu/publichealth.