

Master of Public Health (MPH) in Dual M.D.-MPH Degree

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Website: <http://louisville.edu/sphis/academics/master-of-public-health.html>

Introduction

The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program is a School-based program designed to graduate students each with core competencies in public health and specialized competencies in one of the following concentrations: biostatistics, environmental and occupational health, epidemiology, health management, and health promotion and behavior.

Graduates of the MPH program are prepared for positions in the public health work force, in health-related industries, and in academic organizations and for further professional or academic education.

The dual M.D.-MPH degree program is a five-year program.

Competencies

The MPH program has adopted the competencies published by the Association of Schools of Public Health. (ASPH Education Committee. "Master's Degree in Public Health Core Competency Development Project, Version 2.3." <http://www.asph.org/userfiles/version2.3.pdf>.)

The learning objectives for each course in the MPH curriculum are mapped to these ASPH competencies.

Admission

Admission to the MPH component of the dual M.D.-MPH degree program is open to any first-, second-, or third-year medical student in good standing attending the University of Louisville School of Medicine. There are two schedule options, M.D.1-MPH and M.D.3-MPH, presented in detail below. Briefly, in the M.D.1-MPH option, the MPH component begins in the summer following the first year of medical school; and in the M.D.3-MPH option, in the summer following the third year of medical school.

Application to the M.D.-MPH program can be made at any time before or during the first three years of medical school. Medical students are conditionally accepted on application; actual admission to the MPH component does not occur until completion of the first year of medical school for the M.D.1-MPH option or completion of the third year of medical school for the M.D.3-MPH option. Admission is contingent on being in good standing in medical school, which is defined as having successfully completed all medical school courses up to the start of the MPH component.

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For information on the application process, please contact:

MPH Program
 School of Public Health and Information Sciences
 University of Louisville
 555 South Floyd Street, Suite 4026
 Louisville, KY 40202

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Concentrations

Concentrations are offered in each of the five basic areas of public health by the department that focuses on the area. Each concentration is designed to develop the competencies needed by a public health worker in the corresponding area.

<i>Concentration</i>	<i>Department</i>
Biostatistics	Bioinformatics and Biostatistics
Environmental and Occupational Health	Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
Epidemiology	Epidemiology and Population Health
Health Management	Health Management and Systems Sciences
Health Promotion and Behavior	Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences

Requirements for acceptance to the concentrations in the MPH program are:

<i>Concentration</i>	<i>Concentration Acceptance Requirements</i>
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student in good standing in MPH program • Successful completion of core courses
Biostatistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade from PHST-600 Biostatistics I • Current grade from PHST 610 Biostatistics II • Other evidence of analytic ability, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantitative score from at least one of these exams: GRE, GMAT or DAT - Transcripts showing other college-level mathematics or statistics course - Instructor recommendation - Participation in or successful completion of a research project with analytical component • Exceptions may be granted.
Environmental and occupational health	No additional requirements.

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<i>Concentration</i>	<i>Concentration Acceptance Requirements</i>
Epidemiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade from PHEH-601 Introduction to Epidemiology • Grade from PHST-600 Biostatistics I • Exceptions may be granted.
Health management	No additional requirements.
Health promotion and behavior	No additional requirements.

Curriculum

The curriculum consists of courses in four areas: core (6 courses), concentration (5), practicum experience (2), and integrating experience (3). Core courses and two integrating experience courses are completed prior to taking courses in other areas. Toward the end of taking these courses, each student identifies his or her area of concentration and seeks admission to the department offering the concentration. Once admitted into the concentration, the student takes concentration course, completes the practicum experience, and takes the remaining integrating experience course, which includes a comprehensive written examination focused on the School’s core MPH competencies.

M.D.-MPH students are expected to complete the dual degree program in five years.

M.D.1-MPH Schedule Option

<i>M.D.1-MPH Program Schedule by Semester</i>		
Year 1	Summer	May – early Aug: open early Aug: medical school orientation
	Fall	Medical school first year
	Spring	
Year 2	Summer	mid-May – late-Jun: MPH first semester late-Jun – mid-Aug: open
	Fall	Medical school second year
	Spring	
Year 3	Summer	M.D. Part 1 Board Exams (done by Jun 15) late-Jun – early-Aug: MPH second semester
	Fall	MPH third and fourth semesters
	Spring	
Year 4	Summer	May – late Jun: open/refresh clinical skills late Jun: Medical school third year begins
	Fall	Medical school third year
	Spring	
Year 5	Summer	Medical school fourth year
	Fall	
	Spring	

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<i>M.D.1-MPH Program Schedule by Month</i>												
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Yr 1	open			Medical school first year								
Yr 2	MPH 1 st		open		Medical school second year							
Yr 3	Boards, Pt 1		MPH 2 nd		MPH third semester			MPH fourth semester				
Yr 4	refresher		Medical school third year									
Yr 5	Medical school fourth year											

M.D.1-MPH students who successfully complete the first three years are eligible to receive their MPH degree in May of their third year.

The content of the first two semesters of the MPH program is covered in two 6½-week sessions in successive summers. These sessions are not limited to M.D.-MPH students.

M.D.3-MPH Schedule Option

<i>M.D.3-MPH Program Schedule by Semester</i>		
Year 1	Summer	May – early Aug: open early Aug: medical school orientation
	Fall	Medical school first year
	Spring	
Year 2	Summer	mid-May – mid-Aug: open
	Fall	Medical school second year
	Spring	
Year 3	Summer	M.D. Part 1 Board Exams (done by Jun 15) Late Jun – mid-Aug: open
	Fall	Medical school third year (less last 6-week rotation, either family medicine or psychiatry)
	Spring	
Year 4	Summer	mid-May – late Jun: MPH first semester late Jun – early Aug: MPH second semester
	Fall	MPH third and fourth semesters
	Spring	
Year 5	Summer	May – late Jun: last 6-week rotation postponed from medical school third year
	Fall	Medical school fourth year
	Spring	

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M.D.3-MPH Program Schedule by Month												
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Yr 1	open			Medical school first year								
Yr 2	open			Medical school second year								
Yr 3	Boards, Pt 1		open		Medical school third year							
Yr 4	MPH 1 st		MPH 2 nd		MPH third semester				MPH fourth semester			
Yr 5	MD 3 rd yr		Medical school fourth year									

M.D.3-MPH students who successfully complete the first four years are eligible to receive their MPH degree in May of their fourth year.

The content of the first two semesters of the MPH program is covered in two 6½-week sessions in a single summer. These sessions are not limited to M.D.-MPH students.

M.D.-MPH Summer Schedules

MPH summer schedules by week													
	May		Jun					Jul				Aug	
Wk	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1 st sem	C	C	C	C	C	C	F						
2 nd sem								C	C	C	C	C	C

Key: C = Classes, F= Finals

MPH first semester summer schedules by day					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning [†]	Issues 696		Issues 696		varies [†]
Afternoon [†]	HMgmt 601		HMgmt 601		varies [†]

Courses (11 credit-hours):

- Epi 601*: PHEP-601 Introduction to Epidemiology (3 credit-hours)
- HMgmt 601: PHMS-601 Introduction to Public Health Practice and Administration (3)
- Biostat 600*: PHST-600 Introduction to Biostatistics I (3)
- Issues 696: PHPB-696 Issues in Public Health (2)

MPH second semester summer schedules by day					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning [†]	HBehav 614	Biostat 610	HBehav 614	Biostat 610	varies [†]
Afternoon [†]	EOH 600		EOH 600		varies [†]

Courses (12 credit-hours):

- HBehav 601*: PHPB-601 Introduction to Health Behavior (3 credit-hours)
- EOH 600: PHEH-600 Introduction to Environmental Health Sciences (3)
- Biostat 610: PHST-610 Statistical Computing and Data Management for Public Health (3)
- HBehav 614: PHPB-614 Critical Thinking and Program Evaluation (3)

* Course is online.

† Days and times for courses are examples. Each course has two classes (or online equivalent) per week except two weeks with three classes (14 classes over 6 weeks). Three of the six Fridays

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have classes in the morning and afternoon.

Faculty Advisor

On admission to the M.D.-MPH program, each student is assigned an MPH faculty advisor and is required to meet at least twice each semester with his or her advisor. The pool of faculty advisors includes the concentration coordinators and the core course instructors. Advisors are available to address general academic and public health questions and to assist the student in declaration of his or her area of concentration for the MPH degree.

After admission into a concentration, each student is assigned an MPH faculty advisor from the concentration department who serves as academic practicum advisor, academic mentor, and counselor on career and employment opportunities, professional development, and opportunities beyond graduate school.

Program of Study

The program of study is predetermined for courses in core, practicum experience, and integrating experience areas and the majority of the concentration area. Concentrations have one or two elective courses.

Degree Requirements

Requirements for the MPH degree are:

- Successful completion of core, concentration, practicum experience, and integrating experience coursework
- Completion of all deliverables for the practicum experience
- Comprehensive written examination on the core MPH competencies

Coursework

47 total credit-hours:

- 18 credit-hours of core coursework
- 6 credit hours of practicum experience
- 8 credit-hours of integrating experience
- 15 credit-hours of concentration coursework

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<i>Required Coursework</i>			
Semester	Course #	Course Title (and Area, as needed)	Credit-Hours
I (summer session)	PHEP-601	Introduction to Epidemiology (core)	3
	PHST-600	Introduction to Biostatistics I (core)	3
	PHMS-601	Introduction to Public Health Practice and Administration (core)	3
	PHPB-696	Issues in Public Health (integrating experience)	2
	Semester Total		
II (summer session)	PHEH-600	Introduction to Environmental Health Sciences (core)	3
	PHPB-601	Introduction to Health Behavior (core)	3
	PHST-610	Statistical Computing and Data Management for Public Health (core)	3
	PHPB-614	Critical Thinking and Program Evaluation (integrating experience)	3
	Semester Total		
III		Concentration course	3
		Concentration course	3
		Concentration course	3
	PHxx-679	Practicum Experience	3
	Semester Total		
IV		Concentration course	3
		Concentration course	3
	PHxx-679	Practicum Experience	3
	PHMS-697	Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health	3
	Semester Total		
MPH Degree Total			47

PHPB-696 Issues in Public Health

The Issues in Public Health course is part of the integrating experience and is a trans-disciplinary course designed to integrate what students learned in other coursework and experiences and the application of these lessons to the broader scope of public health. Working in teams and on selected public health projects or initiatives are the focus of the course.

PHPB-614 Critical Thinking and Program Evaluation

The Critical Thinking and Program Evaluation course is an integrating experience course and focuses on the identification of public health problems and planning appropriate responses and evaluations. Planning and evaluation skills are considered pivotal learning concepts for the MPH degree and for successful public health practice.

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PHxx-679 Practicum Experience

The Practicum Experience places the student in a non-academic organization providing services in or closely related to the public health concentration selected by the student. The Practicum Experience and its required deliverables must be completed to fulfill degree program requirements.

PHMS-697 Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health

The Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health course is the capstone of the integrating experience and is designed to synthesize and integrate knowledge acquired in course work and other learning experiences and to apply theory and principles in a situation that approximates some aspect of professional practice. Through the presentation and analysis of actual cases presented by public health practitioners, student evaluation of existing cases, and the development of a new case from current and emerging areas of public health, students working in multi-disciplinary groups demonstrate their ability to apply the general and specific public health knowledge they have learned through their courses of study and effectively apply that knowledge across disciplines to the effective resolution of a public health problem.

Biostatistics Concentration

Coursework

<i>Biostatistics Concentration Coursework</i>			
Semester	Course #	Course Title	Credit-Hours
III	PHCI-624	Clinical Trials I	2
	PHST-726	Clinical Trials Statistics Laboratory	1
	PHST-620	Introduction to Statistical Computing	3
		Concentration elective course	3
	PHST-679	Practicum Experience: Biostatistics	3
	Semester Total		
IV	PHST-640	Statistical Methods for Research Design in Health Studies	3
	PHST-681	Biostatistical Methods II	3
	PHST-679	Practicum Experience: Biostatistics	3
	PHMS-697	Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health	3
	Semester Total		
Concentration Total			24

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Electives

The elective course in the biostatistics concentration may be selected from any 3 credit-hour, graduate-level course in the University with approval of the student’s faculty advisor and the concentration coordinator.

Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration

Coursework

<i>Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration Coursework</i>			
Semester	Course #	Course Title	Credit-Hours
III	PHEH-610	Occupational Health and Safety	3
	PHEH-650	Advanced Topics in Environmental Health	3
		Concentration elective course	3
	PHEH-679	Practicum Experience: Environmental and Occupational Health	3
	Semester Total		
IV	PHEH-620	Global Issues on Environmental and Occupational Health	3
		Concentration elective course	3
	PHEH-679	Practicum Experience: Environmental and Occupational Health	3
	PHMS-697	Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health	3
	Semester Total		
Concentration Total			24

Electives

The elective courses in the environmental and occupational health concentration may be selected from any 3 credit-hour, graduate-level course in the University with approval of the student’s faculty advisor and the concentration coordinator.

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Epidemiology Concentration

Coursework

<i>Epidemiology Concentration Coursework</i>			
Semester	Course #	Course Title	Credit-Hours
III	PHEP-602	Epidemiologic Methods	3
	PHEP-616	Disease Surveillance	3
		Concentration elective course	3
	PHEP-679	Practicum Experience: Epidemiology	3
	Semester Total		
IV	PHEP-617	Field Epidemiology	3
	PHEP-650	Advanced Topics in Epidemiology	3
	PHEP-679	Practicum Experience: Epidemiology	3
	PHMS-697	Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health	3
	Semester Total		
Concentration Total			24

Electives

The elective courses in the epidemiology concentration may be selected from any 3 credit-hour, graduate-level course in the University with approval of the student's faculty advisor and the concentration coordinator.

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Health Management Concentration

Coursework

<i>Health Management Concentration Coursework</i>			
Semester	Course #	Course Title	Credit-Hours
III	PHMS-603	Legal and Bioethical Aspects of Public Health	3
	PHMS-615	Introduction to Health Systems	3
		Concentration elective course	3
	PHMS-679	Practicum Experience: Health Management	3
	Semester Total		
IV	PHMS-605	Governance and Management of Healthcare Organizations	3
	PHMS-607	Managing Healthy Communities	3
	PHMS-679	Practicum Experience: Health Management	3
	PHMS-697	Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health	3
	Semester Total		
Concentration Total			24

Electives

The elective course in the health management concentration may be selected from any 3 credit-hour, graduate-level course in the University with approval of the student's faculty advisor and the concentration coordinator.

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Health Promotion and Behavior Concentration

Coursework

<i>Health Promotion and Behavior Concentration Coursework</i>			
Semester	Course #	Course Title	Credit-Hours
III	PHPB-604	Health Decision and Risk Analysis	3
	PHPB-615	Public Health Program Evaluation	3
		Concentration elective course	3
	PHPB-679	Practicum Experience: Health Promotion and Behavior	3
	Semester Total		
IV	PHMS-607	Managing Healthy Communities	3
	PHPB-612	Health Communication Campaigns	3
	PHPB-679	Practicum Experience: Health Promotion and Behavior	3
	PHMS-697	Integrating Learning and Experience in Public Health	3
	Semester Total		
Concentration Total			24

Electives

The elective course in the health promotion and behavior concentration may be selected from any 3 credit-hour, graduate-level course in the University with approval of the student's faculty advisor and the concentration coordinator.

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Program Data

Name: Master of Public Health Component in
Dual Doctor of Medicine-Master of Public Health

Degree: MPH

Department: School-based

School/College: School of Public Health and Information Sciences

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History: v2007.11.28 submitted 01/30/08; approved 02/01/08.
-1: 09/11/08: concentration coordinators removed;
M.D.3-MPH option added; changes to meet styleguide;
summer schedules revised.

Data updated: 09/11/08