



School of Medicine

Basic Admission Requirements and Application Process

- MPH in Public Health Practice
- MD/MPH
- Graduate Certificate in Public Health Practice

ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

The **Master of Public Health** degree is designed for individuals with a range of academic and professional backgrounds. Public health professionals are concerned with disease prevention, health promotion, and clinical intervention. Learning occurs in interdisciplinary teams and builds on professional expertise (nursing, medicine, pharmacology, social work, dentistry, veterinary science, allied health) and the social and basic sciences. The five core areas of public health are biostatistics, epidemiology, health behavior, environmental health, and health care administration.

The **Master of Public Health in Public Health Practice (MPH-PHP)** prepares graduates with the knowledge and skill to conduct culturally competent public health research, to plan and evaluate health programs in diverse settings, and to contribute to the science of disease prevention and health promotion.

The **MD/Master of Public Health in Public Health Practice (MD/MPH)** offers medical students the opportunity to earn an MPH and a medical degree in five years. Medical students integrate a public health emphasis on population health and disease prevention research with clinical practice in a combined practicum and final project experience.

A **Graduate Certificate in Public Health Practice (GC-PHP)** provides a basic foundation in Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Environmental Health. Students in the GC program may apply to the MPH degree and transfer course credits at a later date.

The public health programs are administered by the School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences in accordance with WSU Graduate School policy. (<http://www.med.wayne.edu/fam>).

The mission of the MPH Program is to educate and engage students in theory, practice and interdisciplinary research focused on understanding and improving the public health of urban and underserved communities on a local, national, and global scale.

MPH DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of **42 credit hours** are required for graduation. A minimum grade point average of **3.00** in coursework must be maintained. All work must be **completed within six years**.

The following lists courses required in three areas: the core, the concentration and electives. All students are required to complete a **practicum experience** (3 credit hours) and a **final project** (3 credit hours) as part of their concentration requirements.

MPH-PHP Required Core Courses (17 credit hours)

FPH 7010	Seminar in Public Health (1 credit)
FPH 7015	Biostatistics I (4 credits)
FPH 7100	Health Care Organization and Administration (3 credits)
FPH 7240	Epidemiology (3 credits)
FPH 7320	Social Basis of Health Care (3 credits)
FPH 7420	Principles of Environmental Health (3 credits)

MPH-PHP Required Concentration Courses (19 credit hours)

FPH 7230	Health Program Evaluation (3 credits)
FPH 7210	Research Methods for Health Professionals (4 credits)
FPH 7250	Applied Epidemiology (3 credits)

MPH-PHP Required Final and Culminating Courses (6 credits)

FPH 7440	Public Health Practicum (3 credits)
FPH 8990	MPH Project (3 credits)

Elective Courses (9 credit hours)

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The GCPHP requires the completion of a minimum of 15 credit hours and must be completed within three years.

GCPHP Required Core Courses (11 Credit Hours)

FPH 7010	Seminar in Public Health (1 credit)
FPH 7240	Epidemiology (3 credits)
FPH 7015	Biostatistics I (4 credits)
FPH 7420	Principles of Environmental Health (3 credits)

Elective Courses (a minimum of 4 credits)

WHAT IT TAKES TO APPLY

Before applications are presented to the admissions committee, all requirements for admission must be satisfied. Students must meet the requirements of the Graduate School of the University as well as those for admission into the Public Health Graduate Programs. All documents are submitted electronically to the WSU Graduate School at <http://gradadmissions.wayne.edu>.

Please note that applications are accepted for **fall semester admission only**. The fall application deadline is **March 31**.

MD/MPH-PHP joint degree applicants first apply to the WSU Medical School (<http://www.med.wayne.edu/admissions>) by December 15 using the American Medical College Application Services Application (AMCAS) and submit the secondary AMCAS application which includes letters of recommendation and the essay “Why are you interested in the MPH Program?”. Select applicants will be interviewed for the MD and MPH Program in December, January or February.

After being admitted to the medical school, joint degree applicants apply to the Wayne State University Graduate School for admission to the MPH Program at <http://gradschool.wayne.edu/future/grad-admission.php>. Please note that all MPH admission requirements apply with the exception of the GRE test. WSU School of Medicine MD/MPH applicants may substitute MCAT scores for GRE test scores.

Admission Requirements

The recommendations of the Committee are based on detailed review of all material submitted online including an applicant’s academic record, performance on the Graduate Record Examination, personal statement, background and professional experience, and three letters of recommendation. Please be aware that our program is competitive and that completing an application or fulfilling minimum requirements is not a guarantee of admission.

1. **Grade Point Average:** Applicants will be expected to demonstrate an overall undergraduate *grade point average (GPA)* of **3.0** or higher (on a scale of 4.0) and specifically to have achieved grades of 3.0 or higher in college course work in mathematics, the social sciences and the natural sciences.
2. **College Level Math:**

The demonstration of competency in *mathematics* at the college-level is essential for admission into these programs. Applicants are therefore expected to have achieved a grade of B or above in a college-based mathematics or statistics course within the last 5 years. Applicants who have not fulfilled this requirement may be asked to do one of the following before being considered for admission into the program:

- Enroll in a college-based mathematics course at a university or community college.

<http://www.med.wayne.edu/fam/mph>

- Register for a math placement exam at a US College or a Community College Mathematics Departments. To fulfill the math requirement, students must pass into the second level of College Math. For example, applicants passing the WSU mathematics placement examination at the first level would be recommended to take MAT 0995 Intermediate Algebra, or MAT 1050 Algebra with Trigonometry (<http://www.clas.wayne.edu/math>). However, an applicant passing at the second level of this placement examination with recommendations to take MAT 1800 (Elementary Functions: basic definition and concept of function) or higher would have met the mathematics requirements for admission into the Program.
 - Apply for a math requirement waiver (available for physicians and other licensed healthcare professionals who might have taken biostatistics as part of a larger course such as community medicine). To apply for a waiver, e-mail a syllabus listing the specific biostatistics competencies, contact hours and grades attained to MPHprogram@med.wayne.edu. The Admissions Committee will grant a waiver if the competencies and skills listed on the syllabus are compatible with those required by our program.
2. **Graduate Record Examination (GRE)** within the last five years. Successful applicants have previously attained scores at the following levels:
- Verbal Reasoning: at or above the 60th percentile
 - Quantitative Reasoning: at or above the 55th percentile
 - Analytical Writing: at or above 4 or the 50th percentile

Please note that eligible students may apply for the GRE waivers below.

- Individuals who have already completed a **graduate degree** (e.g. MS, MBA, MSN, Ph.D.) from an accredited institution, should apply for a waiver of the GRE requirement when applying to our public health programs.
 - Applicants who have a terminal professional degree (for MD, DO, DDS, DVM, and PharmD degrees etc.) and have passed a **professional licensure examination** in the U.S. should apply to the **Graduate Certificate** in order to request a GRE waiver. The US licensure exam scores should be uploaded to the application for consideration in lieu of GRE scores.
 - **MD/MPH joint degree** applicants are invited to apply to the MPH Program following their admission to the Wayne State University Medical School. Only MD/MPH joint degree applicants are allowed to substitute MCAT scores for GRE test scores.
3. **Demonstration of English Proficiency** within the last two years: Applicants who graduated from non-US colleges or universities are required to demonstrate **English proficiency** either by completing a degree at an accredited US institution or in a country where English is the native language; or by passing the Michigan English Language

<http://www.med.wayne.edu/fam/mph>

Assessment Battery (MELAB), the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or equivalent test such as the International English Language Test System (IELTS).

Required Application Documents

- **Curriculum Vitae/Résumé**
- **Personal Statement (< 500 words)** describes the applicant's reasons for applying to the Program, interest and background in the field of public health, and long-term academic and professional goals.
- **Three letters of Recommendation** from former lecturers, supervisors and/or professional colleagues are submitted online by an applicant's referees.
 - The letters need to be current, signed and printed on letterhead, and include a description of how long and in what capacity the referee knows the applicant.
 - The letters should provide information about the applicant's experiences, skills and interests in public health and/or related fields.
 - The letters should provide information about the applicant's ability to be successful in a public health graduate program.
 - The letters may include information about the applicant's interpersonal skills, ability to communicate effectively, motivation, organizational abilities and aptitude in research.

Please note that the Graduate School Admissions Office requires **official transcripts and standardized** test scores to be forwarded to them directly. However, submission of unofficial copies online will expedite the review process. **Applicants are encouraged to submit their material early** even if they have not yet completed their undergraduate degree or taken the GRE. Early document submission enables the admission committee to advise of any deficiencies so that improvements in individual applications can be completed by the March 31 deadline.