Professionals in the field of public health occupy a wide range of fields of interest. Public health, as a field, is the concern for conditions and behaviors that affect the health and safety of us all. Everything from contagious diseases to healthier lifestyles are addressed in some form through public health. People interested in the origins and prevention of disease, studying environmental risk factors for illness, global health and nutrition, or community education to improve living conditions all find a place in public health.

Where do they work?

- Legislative policy advisors
- Journalists
- Health Educators
- Environmentalists
- Reproductive Health Specialist
- Nutritionist
- Public Health Lawyer
Schools of public health offer both masters and doctoral level degrees. Accredited public health programs will cover five core areas of study: biostatistics, environmental health sciences, epidemiology, health policy and management, and social and behavioral sciences. Many programs will also offer dual degrees in areas such as business, law, and masters-level social work. Public health students come from various undergraduate backgrounds. Depending on your interest, your undergraduate degree could be anything from Biology to Sociology.

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**Education**

Public Health programs are interested in students with:

- Effective written and verbal communication skills
- Above average GPA’s
- Above average scores on GRE’s or other entrance exams
- Experience in the field through work or volunteer experiences

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**Application**

The majority of public health schools participate in SOPHAS, the centralized application service for accredited schools of public health.

Admissions requirements vary depending on program.

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**Web Resources**

Association of Schools of Public Health: www.asph.org

Schools of Public Health Application Service (SOPHAS): www.sophas.org

What is Public Health? www.whatispublichealth.org