

# MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

## Description and Outcomes

Public health professionals are concerned with the health of a population—populations as large as several countries (i.e., international) and as small as a local neighborhood. Public health efforts involve improving population health by implementing health education programs, researching disease or injury as it relates to groups and/or geography, and promoting healthy lifestyles. Professionals in the public health field also develop health policy and legislation, manage health services and facilities, and serve as a consultant on health initiatives. The Master of Public Health program could prepare you to pursue a variety of career opportunities in the public health field and private industries.

The Master of Public Health curriculum is designed to provide you with core knowledge and skills in the foundational areas of public health. The program focuses on the public health core knowledge areas and practical skills to prepare you to enter the public health field. In addition, you will study concepts, values, research methods, and applications that could assist you as you prepare for a leadership or administrative career in public health within local, state, or federal governments as well as private industries. Core curriculum topics include biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health sciences, health policy, and social and behavioral sciences. Courses teach you to apply principles of public health to real-world situations and develop administrative, ethical, and professional skills. These skills may help you pursue leadership positions in the expanding field of population health.

You will have the opportunity to select elective courses in a variety of special topics, and may choose courses that closely align to your interests within the field of public health.

In addition, you will solidify your skills through the completion of a capstone project. The project entails analyzing, evaluating, and synthesizing public health constructs within a real-world issue or scenario, without the use of human research participants. As the final course in the program, the capstone experience allows you to demonstrate readiness to enter the public health workforce.

## Concentrations

You can personalize your degree with a concentration in epidemiology, public health informatics, or public health leadership and administration.

## Program Length

The Master of Public Health program consists of a minimum of 64 quarter credit hours. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be awarded the Master of Public Health degree.

## Program Outcomes

1. **Disciplinary Knowledge and Skills:** Analyze the impact of the social determinants of health on population-level outcomes.
2. **Research and Analysis:** Appraise current and relevant health issues and policies.
3. **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving:** Incorporate an evidence-based approach that is culturally and linguistically appropriate.
4. **Professionalism and Ethics:** Leverage ethical principles, epidemiological concepts, and socio-behavioral frameworks to make recommendations for public health practice.

5. **Leadership and Teamwork:** Apply leadership and management principles to address a relevant issue.
6. **Communications:** Demonstrate professional competence in communicating effectively with diverse target groups.

## Professional Competencies

In addition to the discipline-specific outcomes, professional competencies are integrated throughout your academic program. You can review the professional competencies associated with your academic program in the Professional Competencies (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/graduate/professional-competencies/>) section of this Catalog.

## Program Availability

For program availability, please refer to the U.S. State and Other Approvals (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/accreditation-approvals-memberships/>) section and Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>).

## Policies

### Admissions Requirements

You must meet the below admissions requirements in addition to Purdue Global's general requirements (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/>).

### Progression Requirements

If you are a graduate of a medical, osteopathic, naturopathic, chiropractic, or pharmacy program from an accredited university and hold the MD, DO, ND, DC, or PharmD degree, you may receive transfer credit fulfilling PU520 Principles of Epidemiology, PU535 Public Health Biology - A Global Perspective, and any available elective credits in your degree plan. Total credit awarded will range from 8 to 20 credits, depending on your election of a concentration.

To receive credit, by the end of the first term an official transcript must be received from your doctoral degree-granting institution. Transcripts received after the end of the first term may be denied eligibility for an official transfer credit evaluation.

## Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams


Certification and licensure boards have state-specific educational requirements for programs that lead to a license or certification that is a precondition for employment. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information.

Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please see Purdue Global's Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>) to determine enrollment eligibility.

You are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. Such requirements may change during the course of your program. You are not automatically certified in any way upon program completion. Although certain programs are designed to prepare you to take various optional certification exams, Purdue Global cannot guarantee you will be eligible to take these exams or become certified.

Your eligibility may depend on your work experience, completion of education and/or degree requirements, not having a criminal record, and meeting other certification requirements.

## Degree Plan

The  icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module courses. Module course availability may be limited to certain academic calendars. See Course

Types (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/>

approach-to-learning/) for information about module courses.

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
HA545	Health Policy	4
HI501	Health Informatics	4
PU501	Fundamentals of Public Health and Health Systems	4
PU508	Social and Behavioral Theory and Frameworks	4
PU520	Principles of Epidemiology	4
PU525	Biostatistics for Public Health	4
PU535	Public Health Biology - A Global Perspective	4
PU555	Foundations of Public Health Research	4
PU605	Public Health Programming	4
PU635	Survey of Environmental and Occupational Health	4
PU685	Issues and Concepts in Maternal and Child Health	4
PU699	Master of Public Health Capstone	4
Total Core Requirements		48
<b>Open Elective Requirements</b>		
Health Electives <sup>1</sup>		16
Total Open Elective Requirements		16
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>64</b>

<sup>1</sup> Students enrolled in the non-concentration option must take PU545 Disaster Management within their health electives.

## Concentration Requirements

Concentration courses are completed within the health electives requirement of the degree plan.

Students in this program are not required to select a concentration.

### Epidemiology

Code	Title	Credits
PU565	Qualitative and Quantitative Methods	4
PU570	Chronic Disease Epidemiology	4
PU580	Environmental Epidemiology	4
PU650	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	4
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>16</b>

### Public Health Informatics

Code	Title	Credits
HI520	Database Design and SQL	4
HI530	Clinical Terminologies, Vocabularies, and Information Standards	4
HI560	Health Care Data Analytics	4
HI570	Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Information	4
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>16</b>

### Public Health Leadership and Administration

Code	Title	Credits
HA510	Organizational Development in Health Care	4
HA520	Health Care Financial Management	4
HA540	Health Care Operations and Quality Assessment	4
PU550	Public Health Leadership and Administration	4
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>16</b>