

Combined Bachelor's/MPH Degree Program

Public Health Combined Degree Program Bachelor's degree/ Master of Public Health

Introduction to the MPH combined degree program

We are pleased to offer the Master of Public Health combined degree program in the College of Public Health and Health Professions. Our combined degree program is available to UF undergraduate students from any college and major. The MPH program requires 48 credits of graduate level coursework. However, the combined degree program allows students to get a 15-credit head start on that coursework while still undergraduates. Students complete both their bachelor's degree and the master of public health degree while saving over a semester of time (i.e. 15 semester hours).

Program design

Students from all UF undergraduate degree programs are eligible to be considered for the combined degree program. Regardless of the bachelor's degree program involved, students complete 15 credit hours of graduate level public health course work during their undergraduate senior year. Once satisfactorily completed, these credits count toward both the bachelor's degree and the 48-credit master of public health degree. For undergraduates in the College of Public Health and Health Professions, these credits replace 15 credits of required college and/or general electives, thereby resulting in no change in the number of credits required for graduation at the bachelor's level. It is anticipated that most students from other colleges interested in the combined degree will be able to use elective hours to complete the public health coursework required in the senior year.

After receipt of the bachelor's degree and acceptance to graduate school, students complete the remaining 33 credits required for the master of public health degree. (See MPH program overview on this website, <http://mph.ufl.edu/programs/oncampusprograms/master-of-public-health/>)

Curricular requirements

Students fulfill the 15 credit hours taken as an undergraduate by completing the five core courses in public health (shown below). Students must receive a minimum grade of B in each course for it to count towards the MPH portion of the combined degree. In order to continue in the program after completion of the 15 credits, students must demonstrate appropriate professional behavior during the undergraduate portion of the combined degree program, successfully complete their bachelor's degree, and be accepted to graduate school. The remaining course work for the graduate level program (33 credits) is determined by the MPH concentration selected by the student. Students have five concentrations from which to choose: epidemiology, social and behavioral sciences, biostatistics, environmental health, or health management and policy. Students uncertain about their public health concentration can use the senior year to explore the area of public health in which they are most interested. The MPH curriculum is available at the public health website <http://mph.ufl.edu/programs/oncampusprograms/master-of-public-health/>.

Core Public Health Courses

There are five core areas of knowledge considered critical for all public health students. These areas have been delineated by the Council on Education for Public Health and also reflect the core concentrations offered in our MPH program. These areas are: Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health Sciences, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavioral Sciences. There are two options for meeting the Biostatistics core course requirement. Students who anticipate enrolling in the Health Policy and Management concentration should take PHC6050. Students in other concentrations take PHC6052. All five courses are completed in fall and spring of the undergraduate senior year. For full descriptions and syllabi for the five core courses [click here](#).

Student eligibility

Given the breadth of possible public health careers, UF undergraduate students with any major can apply to the public health combined degree program. Applicants must apply during their junior year for admission in the senior year. Only students with a strong overall academic portfolio will be considered. Students must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.2 and must also submit GRE test results. While we have not set minimum GRE requirements, students accepted into the program have typically done well on this exam.

All students must have completed **STA 2023**, **BSC 2007** or **BSC 2010**, **PSY 2012**, **CLP 3144** or **DEP 3053**, and **APK 2105C** with a grade of at least a C in each course to be eligible for admission to the combined degree program (students should check with the Dean's office for any prerequisite changes or substitutions). Students have additional prerequisite coursework for the graduate level portion of the program depending upon the concentration area of interest. These additional prerequisites can be completed in the senior year. Students should check with the dean's office for current prerequisites. (Currently, Environmental Health requires two semesters of college biology and two semesters of college chemistry. Organic chemistry is recommended but not required for Environmental Health.)

How to apply

Interested students should submit the following materials to the College of Public Health and Health Professions (PHHP) Bachelors Program office, located at 3189 HPNP Building:

- Completed University of Florida form for the Combined Degree Application (located on the BPH website)
- GRE scores
- University transcript documenting all college level work
- One letter of recommendation from a faculty member (Must use the [UF GRAD LOR FORM](#))
- Statement of interest

You will also need to apply to the Graduate School but do not take this step until after you are sure that you have been accepted to the combined degree program.

Application deadlines

Applications should be submitted by July 1 for Fall term admission. Applications after the relevant deadline will be considered on a case-by-case and space available basis.

Steps to take if accepted

Once the dean's office has made acceptance decisions, students will be contacted to pick up the combined degree form. Students need to return the signed combined degree form to their college's academic advising office to ensure appropriate credit for the coursework. The PPHP dean's office will register students for their public health courses.

Tuition

Please remember that the public health combined degree requires graduate level courses in the senior year. Financial aid typically only pays for the undergraduate portion of the cost of graduate courses when you are an undergraduate. However, please check with student financial services regarding your specific financial aid package or if you have questions regarding tuition coverage for these courses.

Start date

Students can initiate the combined degree program in Fall or Spring once they have reached senior standing (90 hours earned) and have been accepted to the program. Students cannot begin the program before reaching senior standing.

Student questions

Students should feel free to contact Dr. Liz Wood (liz07@php.ufl.edu) if they have questions regarding the public health combined degree (352-273-6491).