School Health Education

Degree Offered

- MS in School Health Education

The mission of the MS in School Health program focuses on preparing school health professionals to provide public health leadership on school campuses in their roles as teachers, guidance counselors, school nurses, and administrators. Our program emphasizes the importance of creating an environment in which students are most likely to choose healthy behaviors that support academic success and positive life outcomes. This includes providing excellent health education services, developing a safe and supportive school culture characterized by positive relationships with concerned adults and peers, advocating for school policies that support student wellbeing, and working collaboratively with parents, other caregivers, and the community-at-large to support student and school success.

For more information about the MS in School Health Education program, please contact:

Dr. Toni Morris
Assistant Professor
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
School of Public Health
West Virginia University
tomorris@hsc.wvu.edu
304-293-3775

Admissions and the Application Process for the MS in School Health Education

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Our program has been designed for currently certified teachers interested in completing graduate study in school health. To be considered for admission, all applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a preferred GPA of 3.0
2. A current teaching certificate if applicable
3. Three letters of recommendation that suggest a high probability of successful graduate study. These letters of recommendation can be from either professional or academic sources (ex: from mentors, principals, professors, etc)

Need More Information? Please contact Dr. Toni Morris at tomorris@hsc.wvu.edu (tomorris@hsc.wvu.edu) or 304-293-3775.

APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE MS IN SCHOOL HEALTH EDUCATION

Students interested in applying for the MS in School Health Education must:

- Complete and submit the online WVU graduate application and pay the university's processing fee. You can find this application located at: https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=wvugrad
- Have each of the institutions of higher education you have previously attended submit official transcripts to the address provided below. These must be official transcripts sent directly from these school’s registrar to:
  
Office of Graduate Admissions and Recruitment
PO Box 6510
Morgantown, WV 26506-6510

- Send the following items in a single envelope to the address below:
  
  A. A current resume or curriculum vitae;
  B. Three letters of recommendation in individual envelopes that were sealed by the person making the recommendation;
  C. A one page statement of purpose describing your interest in the program and goals for the future;
  D. A copy of your current teaching certificate(s), if applicable.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

The MS in School Health Education has a rolling admissions process. Applications are accepted for fall, spring, and summer semesters. However, it is recommended that you submit your application materials a minimum of 4 weeks before the start of the semester you would like to begin. A good guideline for these deadlines is July 15th for fall admissions, December 15th for spring admissions, and April 15th for summer admissions. Although we will do our best to accommodate late applications, we cannot always ensure our ability to do so.

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Master of Science

Our curriculum consists of 30 hours worth of course work in school health and advanced curriculum and instruction. Full-time students can complete our curriculum in as little as one year. Part-time students can complete the program as quickly as four semesters if they begin during a summer semester or can choose a longer plan of study if that better meets their needs. All courses in this program are offered online and during the semesters indicated below. The required courses for this program include:

**MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SHED 600</td>
<td>Foundations of Public Health for School Health Educators</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHED 601</td>
<td>Emerging Research in Elementary School Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHED 602</td>
<td>Emerging Research in Secondary School Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHED 603</td>
<td>Community and Context in School Health</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHED 640</td>
<td>School Health Program Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>SHED 645</td>
<td>Evaluating School Health Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHED 675</td>
<td>Leadership and Advocacy in School Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C&amp;I 604</td>
<td>School Curriculum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C&amp;I 687</td>
<td>Advanced Teaching Strategies</td>
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<tr>
<td>C&amp;I 688</td>
<td>Classroom Organization and Management</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Total Hours** | **30**

**Major Learning Goals**

**MS School Health Education Program Competencies**

- Demonstrate the knowledge and skills of a health literate educator.
- Assess needs to determine priorities for school health education.
- Plan effective comprehensive school health education curricula and programs.
- Implement health education instruction.
- Assess student learning.
- Plan and coordinate a school health education program.
- Serve as a resources person in health education.
- Communicate and advocate for health and school health education.