

School of Public Health

Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Science

Nature of the Program

The School of Public Health offers two majors within the Bachelor of Science program. Both the Public Health Sciences and Health Services Administration majors are typically completed in a four-year period.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES MAJOR

Graduates of the Public Health Sciences major are prepared for entry-level positions in a wide array of agencies involved in public and private health, including local, regional and state health departments, consulting and advocacy organizations, healthcare organizations, and government agencies, as well as entry into select graduate and professional programs.

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION MAJOR

Students in this major will acquire the knowledge and skills to become health services managers, who oversee day-to-day operations; set and carry out policies, goals, and procedures; evaluate the quality of the staff's work; and develop reports and budgets for health-related and clinical agencies and departments. The Health Services Administration major will provide students with an understanding of public and population health, as well as specific courses preparing them for entry level positions in health services management and administration, or for further professional education.

ACCELERATED BACHELOR'S TO MASTER'S (4+1) PROGRAM

The School of Public Health's Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's programs offer highly motivated students with an interest in the Master of Health Administration or Master of Public Health the opportunity to complete their Bachelor of Science and a Master's degree in an accelerated pathway.

ADMINISTRATION

DEAN

- Sarah Woodrum - DrPH (University of Illinois, Chicago)

ASSISTANT DEAN FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

- Scot McIntosh - MS (Eastern Kentucky University)

DIRECTOR OF DOCTORIAL PROGRAMS

- Ranjita Misra - PhD (Old Dominion University)

DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

- Audra Hamrick - MA (West Virginia University)
Assistant Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences

CHAIRS

- Nicholas Castle - PhD (Pennsylvania State University)
Professor, Department of Health Policy, Management and Leadership
- Bethany Barone Gibbs - PhD (Johns Hopkins University)
Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Keith Zullig - PhD (University of South Carolina)
Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Admissions for 2026-2027

First time student who meet University requirements are directly admitted to the Public Health Sciences major.

Students admitted from other majors within WVU must be in good academic standing (2.0 GPA)

Students transferring from another institution must be in good academic standing (2.0 GPA).

Once in the program, students must maintain a 2.5 GPA

ADDITIONAL ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION MAJOR FOR FALL AND SPRING TERMS

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

- First time students with Minimum GPA of 2.75, or,
- First time students with Minimum GPA of 2.5 with an accompanying ACT of 21 or higher.
- Students transferring internally or from another institution with Minimum GPA of 2.75

Applicants who are admissible to the university and School but do not meet the minimum requirements for the Health Services Administration major, will be admitted into the Public Health Sciences major to complete the core requirements until they are eligible for admission to the Health Services Administration major.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ACCELERATED BACHELORS TO MASTERS (ABM) PROGRAMS

Students can apply for the accelerated program (4+1) after the completion of a minimum 60 credits, but not more than 75 credits. Only enrolled WVU Public Health Sciences or Health Services Administration majors may be considered for admission to the accelerated program. Transfer students must have completed 24 credit hours as degree-seeking students at WVU before applying. Students applying for the ABM cannot be enrolled in a dual degree or certificate program. Public Health Sciences students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 to be considered for the accelerated Master of Public Health program. Health Services Administration students must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 to be considered for the accelerated Master of Health Administration program.

Degree Designation Learning Outcomes

Bachelor of Science in Public Health

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a strong foundation of knowledge about the history, philosophy, core values, concepts, and functions of public health in the US and globally.
2. Determine appropriate public health processes, approaches, and interventions needed to address health-related needs and concerns of specific populations.
3. Illustrate how socio-economic, behavioral, biological, and environmental factors impact human health, contribute to health disparities, and can be affected by promotion and protection programs.
4. Communicate public health information to diverse audiences through a variety of mediums.
5. Apply evidence-based and ethical approaches to identifying, collecting, using, analyzing, and disseminating public health data and information.
6. Differentiate the basic concepts of legal, ethical, economic, and regulatory dimensions of health and how they influence the US health system and public health policy.

Public Health Sciences Major

In addition to the BS in Public Health program objectives, the Public Health Sciences major, provides knowledge and skills that:

1. Allows for the application of social behavioral, biostatistical and epidemiologic methods to identify and analyze public health issues.

Health Services Administration Major

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a strong foundational knowledge of the history, principles, theories, frameworks, and current issues in public health.
2. Describe health and health care dynamics, including the structures, policies, processes and institutions that make up the U.S. healthcare system.
3. Manage the basic human, fiscal, and physical resources needed for accomplishing organizational goals.
4. Articulate a personal management philosophy that integrates health services management and leadership concepts, knowledge, and skills.
5. Apply principles and practices of health services management and leadership to identify and solve organizational problems.

Accreditation

The WVU School of Public Health is fully accredited (<http://publichealth.wvu.edu/about/accreditation/>) by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH (<https://ceph.org/>)). The only accredited public health program in the state, the School is home to undergraduate and graduate programs in various public health disciplines at the BS, MPH, MS and PhD levels. The school's Master of Science in Industrial Hygiene program is accredited by the Applied Natural Sciences Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET-ANSAC (<https://www.abet.org/>)). The school is also seeking accreditation for the Master of Health Administration (MHA) program by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare

Management Education (CAHME (<https://www.cahme.org/>)) and certification of the Bachelor of Science in Health Services Management and Leadership by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA (<https://www.aupha.org/home/>)).

Minors

- Epidemiology (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/epidemiology/>)
- Public Health (<http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/pubh/>)