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MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCIENCES (MPH)

ABOUT

Based on the foundation of behavioral science research, the Rutgers School of Public Health's Master of Public Health (MPH) in Social and Behavioral Health Sciences degree prepares students to understand the importance of individual behaviors in health decision making.

Students will be trained in public health policy and health behavior theories and models to assess diverse populations.

Graduates will be able to design, implement, conduct, and evaluate health education programs to positively impact health behavior change, health promotion, and health outcomes for all people and populations.

Graduates are eligible to sit for the Certified in Public Health Exam and Certified Health Education Specialist Exam.

PROGRAM FORMAT

The MPH in Social and Behavioral Health Sciences degree is offered to students on a full-time or part-time basis. Students will complete a total of 45 credits, including a practicum experience and capstone research project.

If completing the program as a full-time student (nine or more credits per semester), the degree requirements may be completed in as little as two years (four to five semesters).

Part-time students taking at least six credits per semester may expect to finish within four years. Taking courses in the summer may help expedite part-time students' timing.

Courses are available in-person, remote, and/or online.

Students are also required to register for and complete an Interprofessional Education activity prior to graduation.

FAST FACTS



Program Size: 45 Students

Total Credits: 45

Format: Full-time and part-time in-person; some online courses available

Degree Options: Dual degree and 15+ additional certificates

Certified in Public Health Exam Eligibility: Yes

Certified Health Education Specialist Exam Eligibility: Yes

Application Deadlines:

Fall Semester Start Date

January 15 (priority)
May 1 (regular)

Spring Semester Start Date

October 15 (priority)
December 1 (regular)

Apply Today:



[go.rutgers.edu/
sph-apply](https://go.rutgers.edu/sph-apply)

Through this program, I have been able to enhance my skillset and increase my knowledge about health education and research. I have developed leadership skills that will help me facilitate community change and have equipped me with the ability to tackle complex public health challenges.

- Laurie, MPH '22

PROGRAM FORMAT, CONT.

Dual-degree options are available in partnership with other Rutgers University schools. Students can earn a post-baccalaureate certificate alongside their degree with an additional 6-12 credits. Contact admissions for additional information at admissions@sph.rutgers.edu.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

A complete application includes:

- Online application: visit go.rutgers.edu/sph-apply
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Statement of goals, one-to-three pages in length, which addresses:
 - Interest in the program
 - Preparedness for the program
 - Goals and aspirations
- Two letters of recommendation with at least one letter from an academic reference if you are currently enrolled in a degree program or have graduated within the last four years
- Resume or CV
- GRE General Exam (optional)
- TOEFL or IELTS score for applicants educated in a non-native English-speaking country

Applications are accepted on a rolling, space-available basis following the regular deadline.

DID YOU KNOW?

The school has several research centers and works closely with Rutgers University institutes:

- Center for Public Health Workforce Development
- Center for Health, Identity, Behavior & Prevention Studies
- Center on Gun Violence Research
- Cancer Health Equity Center of Excellence
- Center for South Asian Quantitative Health & Education
- Institute for Nicotine & Tobacco Studies
- Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute
- Institute for Health, Healthcare, Policy and Aging Research
- Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey
- ...and more

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Isabelle is focused on community and population health. She is interested in health disparities and working to create proactive, equitable solutions that are founded on cultural competency and the development of lasting, trustworthy collaborations between organizations and the communities they serve.

"The Social and Behavioral Health Sciences concentration has given me the tools to design, implement, conduct, and evaluate health education and promotion programs in various settings. The faculty and staff I have worked with have all genuinely supported me as I begin my career as a public health professional! The School has given me many opportunities to work in population health research, something that I am passionate about."

- Isabelle, CHES, MPH '22

CURRICULUM

- Core Public Health Courses (18 credits)
- Practicum (3 credits)
- Concentration Courses (15 credits)
- Elective Courses (9 credits)
- Other Requirements

Total: 45 credits

CAREERS

- Health Educator
- Health Promotion Program Coordinator
- Behavioral Health Program Coordinator
- Tobacco Quitline Coach
- Smoking Cessation Specialist
- Wellness Coordinator

Ranked Among the Best in the Country

The school has been ranked No. 22 among the 2023-2024 Best Graduate Schools in Public Health by U.S. News & World Report.

\$88 million

School primary faculty and students were directly awarded a historic \$88 million in federal grant/contract funding in 2023. These were prime awards made to Rutgers University.

Historic Endowment for LGBTQ+ Health

A \$3 million gift from James F. Dougherty, will fund the Perry N. Halkitis Endowed Chair in LGBTQ+ Public Health at the school.