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# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (MS)

## ABOUT

The Rutgers School of Public Health's Master of Science (MS) in Sustainability and Health degree prepares students to think critically and systemically about the interconnections and interdependencies between human health and well-being and the health of the planet.

This is an exciting time to adopt health and well-being as a lens on environmental and societal fragility as well as a catalyst for change. The pursuit of sustainability is a goal for today and a means to help create a world that leave no one behind. Locally rooted but globally connected, sustainability is fuel for betterment of people and planet.

Students will learn how to plan sustainability actions and forecast how these actions impact health in local communities and beyond. They will evaluate conflicts of interests, trade-offs, and dilemmas in advancing sustainability for health and well-being. They will explore how policy can support sustainability efforts, and will practice collaborative problem-solving that takes into account the needs, perspectives, and actions of others in pursuit of healthier communities and a healthier planet. Students will also analyze data and present it in ways that encourage people to question norms and practices and promote the adoption of sustainability solutions for health and well-being. A key focus will be developing sustainability leadership to drive meaningful change in healthcare and health systems.

## PROGRAM FORMAT

The MS in Sustainability and Health degree is offered to students for full-time or part-time completion. Students enrolled in this program may earn their MS degree in as little as two years (four to five semesters).

Students complete a total of 36 credits, including a comprehensive, mentored research or consultancy project that deepens their understanding in the discipline of sustainability and human health.

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

## CAREERS

- Sustainability Consultant
- Healthcare Sustainability Leader
- Sustainability Policy Advisor
- Resiliency Officer
- Manager or Director



## FAST FACTS



**STEM Designated Program:** Yes

**Total Credits:** 36

**Format:** Hybrid, full-time and part-time options

**Application Deadline:**

**Fall Semester Start Date**

January 15 (Priority)

May 1 (Regular)

**Apply Today:**



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

## CURRICULUM

- Required Courses (18 credits)
- Elective Courses (12 credits)
- Research or Consulting Project (6 credits)
- Other Requirements

**Total: 36 credits**

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Students may only apply to this program for fall semester admission.

### A complete application includes:

- Online application: visit [go.rutgers.edu/sph-apply](https://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.*

## WHY CHOOSE THE MS IN SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH DEGREE?



"The M.S. in Sustainability and Health positions health and wellbeing as the lens through which the three pillars of sustainability, namely the environment, society, and the economy are viewed. Sustainability recognizes the interdependencies between the health of people and the planet. Planetary perturbations are a threat multiplier – exacerbating underlying health conditions and intensifying existing disparities in society. Healthcare, public health, and other systems need to adapt and sustainability is both the driver and the solution."

*Wendy Purcell, PhD, FRSA, Professor and Vice Chair for Education, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health and Justice, Co-Chair of Rutgers Health Climate Action Group and Co-Chair of the Center for Climate, Health, and Healthcare*

## 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
- Center for Climate, Health, and Healthcare
- ...and more

### Ranked Among the Best in the Country

*The school is ranked among the top 20 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 funded the Perry N. Halkitis Endowed Chair in LGBTQ+ Public Health at the school.*