BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH (MBCH)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Public Health

Abstract
The Department offers graduate study leading to the Master Public Health (MPH) in Behavioral and Community Health and the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Behavioral and Community Health. The graduate programs are designed to prepare behavioral health professionals with specific skills and the ability to implement theoretical knowledge in a practical setting.

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The mission of the MPH program is to promote the development of behavioral and community health professionals who understand the science, theory, and practice of public health and can apply this knowledge toward the enhancement of health status of communities. The MPH program is designed as a professional degree to prepare behavioral and community health professionals working in public health service as practitioners, administrators, supervisors, educators, consultants, and researchers. Students will participate in both academic and applied training in program planning and implementation, program evaluation, public policy analysis, research, and management.

Degree programs may be completed either full-time or part-time. All classes are held from in the late afternoon and evening typically starting at 4:00pm or later Monday through Friday. Faculty support coursework, research and practice experiences in many areas, including: health communication; health behavior; adolescent health; women's health; health literacy and health disparities. Faculty hold doctoral degrees in public health, psychology, health education, sociology, and epidemiology. The Department offers excellent research and laboratory facilities including the Center for Young Adult Health and Development, Laboratory for Health Behavior Assessment and Intervention and The Center for Health Behavior Research.

Financial Assistance
The Department offers a limited number of fellowships, and graduate teaching and research assistantships. Contact the Director of Graduate Studies for further information.

Contact
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Courses: HLTH (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/courses/hlth/) SPHL (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/courses/sphl/)

Relationships: Epidemiology (EPID) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/epidemiology-epid/), Health Administration (HLSA) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/health-administration-hlsa/), Maternal and Child Health (MCHS) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/maternal-child-health-mchs/)

Admissions
GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
• Statement of Purpose
• Transcript(s)
• TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/))

PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS
• SOPHAS Application (https://sophas.org/): Applications for this School of Public Health Program must first be submitted through the Public Health application system, www.SOPHAS.org. SPH applicants should only complete the UMD application after their SOPHAS application has been verified and you have been notified to complete the UMD application.
• The MPH in Behavioral and Community Health program has a two-step application process. Applicants first submit the SOPHAS application (www.sophas.org), the centralized application service for schools and programs of public health (Step 1). Once the SOPHAS application has been verified applicants will submit their UMD Supplemental application (Step 2). Applicants will receive an email from the SPH Admissions team with instructions for how to complete the UMD Supplemental Application. Applications will not be reviewed until both the SOPHAS and UMD Supplemental applications are completed.

For detailed instructions on how to submit your application, please visit the School of Public Health Website: (https://sph.umd.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/graduate-application-process (https://sph.umd.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/graduate-application-process/))

APPLICATION DEADLINES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Applicant</th>
<th>Fall Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Applicants</td>
<td>April 7, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Citizens and Permanent Residents</td>
<td>The priority deadline for both the SOPHAS and the UMD applications is December 16, 2022.</td>
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</tbody>
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International Applicants
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A,E,G,H,I and L visas and immigrants

March 3, 2023

The priority deadline for both the SOPHAS and the UMD applications is December 16, 2022.

RESOURCES AND LINKS:


Application Process: https://sph.umd.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/graduate-application-process (https://sph.umd.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/graduate-application-process/)

Admissions FAQ: https://sph.umd.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/graduate-application faqs (https://sph.umd.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/graduate-application faqs/)

Requirements

• Behavioral and Community Health, Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/behavioral-community-health-mbch/behavioral-community-health-mph/)

Facilities and Special Resources

The Department has research specializations in a variety of areas including:

• Minority health/social inequalities in health
• Alcohol and drug abuse
• Safety and health
• Sexual health
• Adolescent health and risk behavior
• Violence prevention/community violence
• Public health communication
• Treatment of nicotine dependence

Specialized laboratories operating within the Department include:

• The Prevention Research Center
• The Center for Health Behavior Research
• The Center for Young Adult Health and Development

The proximity of the nation's capital, the National Institutes of Health, the National Library of Medicine, the Food and Drug Administration, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and numerous public health focused private and not-for-profit organizations/agencies render the University of Maryland unusually well suited for graduate work in behavioral and community health.