



### **Twin Cities Campus**

## **Public Health Informatics M.P.H.**

School of Public Health - Adm

### **School of Public Health**

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

- **Students will no longer be accepted into this program after Fall 2021. Program requirements below are for current students only.**

#### **Contact Information:**

School of Public Health, MMC 819, A395 Mayo Memorial Building, 420 Delaware Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612-626-3500 OR 1-800-774-8636; fax: 612-624-4498)

Email: [sph-oasr@umn.edu](mailto:sph-oasr@umn.edu)

Website: <http://www.sph.umn.edu>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2022
- Length of program in credits: 43
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Courses are available both on campus and in a hybrid format where students attend classes remotely using WebEx or similar technology.
- Degree: Master of Public Health

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

Information is key to effective public health administration. Surveillance systems provide information on infectious disease tracking, disease clusters, food-borne outbreaks, and injuries. Environmental monitoring systems provide information on health risks such as toxic chemicals or airborne pollutants. Registries contain information on vital statistics such as birth, death, and immunization. E-Public Health integrates information from electronic health records to use in improving population health.

Students pursuing the MPH in Public Health Informatics (MPH-PHI) learn how to manage public health information systems, including vital statistics systems, online analytical processing tools, immunization registries, population health surveillance, community health information networks, and more.

The MPH-PHI is offered both in-person and fully online. This program will prepare you to:

Understand the significance of the various public health information systems and how to leverage these systems to improve health of the public

Conceive, design, develop, implement, and use IT by applying informatics skills to population health

Manage information systems within an organization or network of organizations

Create state-of-the-art solutions at the intersection of informatics and global public health

### **Accreditation**

This program is accredited by CEPH (Council on Education for Public Health)

### **Program Delivery**

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)
- partially online (between 50% to 80% of instruction is online)

### **Prerequisites for Admission**

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

All application materials are submitted directly to SOPHAS:

Statement of purpose and objectives: Provide an essay describing your past education, experience, and current professional career objectives. You are encouraged to comment on any or all of the following: plans you have to use your education and training; the needs and/or challenges you perceive as important in your field of study; and any personal qualities, characteristics, and skills you believe will enable you to be successful in your chosen field of study.



#### Resume or CV

Official post-secondary transcripts from all US institutions attended (must be sent directly from the institutions to SOPHAS). This includes previous study at the University of Minnesota.

Three letters of recommendation from persons qualified to assess your academic work; clinical, public health, or professional experiences; or leadership potential in public health.

Applicants must submit their test score(s) from the following:

- GRE
  - General Test - Verbal Reasoning: 150
  - General Test - Quantitative Reasoning: 150
  - General Test - Analytical Writing: 3.5

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
  - Internet Based - Total Score: 100
  - Paper Based - Total Score: 600
- IELTS
  - Total Score: 7

The preferred English language test is Test of English as Foreign Language

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(GRE, TOEFL, IELTS).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

## Program Requirements

**Plan C:** Plan C requires 43 major credits and up to null credits outside the major. There is no final exam. A capstone project is required.  
**Capstone Project:** The purpose of the master's project is to enable students to demonstrate: familiarity with the tools of research and scholarship in the field of public health informatics; the ability to work independently; the ability to plan and carry out a systematic investigation related to a public health issue; and the ability to effectively present, in written and oral form, the results of their investigation.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for students to remain in good standing.

### Required Coursework

#### M.P.H. Core Coursework

Students must satisfy competency requirements in the six core areas of public health - administration, behavioral science, biostatistics, environmental health, epidemiology, and ethics.

Take 15 credits of MPH core courses from the following list:

#### Administration

[PUBH 6751](#) - Principles of Management in Health Services Organizations (2.0 cr)

#### Behavioral Science

[PUBH 6020](#) - Fundamentals of Social and Behavioral Science (2.0 cr)

#### Biostatistics

[PUBH 6450](#) - Biostatistics I (4.0 cr)

#### Environmental Health

[PUBH 6101](#) *{inactive}* (2.0 cr)

or [PUBH 6102](#) - Issues in Environmental Health (2.0 cr)

#### Ethics

[PUBH 6741](#) - Ethics in Public Health: Professional Practice and Policy (1.0 cr)

or [PUBH 6742](#) - Ethics in Public Health: Research and Policy (1.0 cr)

#### Epidemiology

[PUBH 6320](#) - Fundamentals of Epidemiology (3.0 cr)

or [PUBH 6341](#) - Epidemiologic Methods I (3.0 cr)

#### Public Health Informatics Core Coursework

Take 21 credits of PHI core courses from the following list:



HINF 5430 - Foundations of Health Informatics I (3.0 cr)  
PUBH 6806 - Principles of Public Health Research (2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6876 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6877 - Public Health Systems Analysis and Design - Practicum (2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6880 - Introduction to Public Health Informatics (2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6881 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6878 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6879 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6813 - Managing Electronic Health Information (2.0 cr)  
PUBH 6814 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)

#### Elective Credits

Take at least 7 elective credits from the following list. Other graduate-level courses, including courses from outside the School of Public Health, can be taken with prior approval of the program director.

Students are strongly encouraged to take PUBH 6805, as most PHI-related work is related to projects.

Take 7 or more credit(s) from the following:

- PUBH 6805 - Introduction to Project Management for Health Professionals (2.0 cr)
- PUBH 6705 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- PUBH 6025 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)
- PUBH 6727 - Health Leadership and Effecting Change (2.0 cr)
- NURS 7108 - Population Health Informatics (2.0 cr)
- HINF 5431 - Foundations of Health Informatics II (3.0 cr)
- HINF 5520 - Informatics Methods for Health Care Quality, Outcomes, and Patient Safety (2.0 cr)
- HINF 5540 - Interprofessional Health Informatics (2.0 cr)
- NURS 5116 - Consumer Health Informatics (2.0 cr)

## Program Sub-plans

A sub-plan is not required for this program.

Students may complete the program with more than one sub-plan.

### Health Disparities Interdisciplinary Concentration Area

The Health Disparities Interdisciplinary Concentration (HDIC) addresses the unequal burden of health risks, morbidity, and mortality experienced by minority cultural and social groups in the US, as well as unequal quality of and access to health care. Achieving optimum health for all segments of society is a central goal of Healthy People 2020, and a concern in Minnesota as well. Despite Minnesota's ranking as one of the nation's healthiest states, Minnesota has some of the largest gaps among cultural and social groups in health indicators.

SPH graduate students must complete a formal program plan if they want the HDIC to appear on their transcripts. For more information, contact Carol Francis, interdisciplinary concentrations coordinator, at franc004@umn.edu or 612-624-6952.

### Public Health Policy Interdisciplinary Concentration Area

The School of Public Health's Public Health Policy Interdisciplinary Concentration (PHPIC) focuses on promoting the health of populations and groups through public and organizational policy. PHPIC is open to students pursuing an MPH, includes coursework that explores the way in which federal, state, local, and institutional entities affect the financing, structure, and delivery of public health and medical care. PHPIC coursework provides a better understanding of the health care system as a whole and prevention policy. The challenging curriculum helps MPH majors hone practical skills that are highly sought after in the public health and policy arenas. Students who pursue the concentration can choose courses that emphasize:

Understanding community dynamics  
Developing advocacy skills for public health  
Analyzing legal and policy structures  
Evaluating and implementing policies and programs  
Influencing community health  
Motivating and educating stakeholders and decision-makers  
Using policy as prevention strategy

Eliminating health disparities through policy SPH graduate students must complete a formal program plan if they want the PHPIC to appear on their transcripts. For more information, contact Carol Francis, interdisciplinary concentrations coordinator, at franc004@umn.edu or 612-624-6952.