Recommended and/or Required Preparation for Public Health
Graduate Degree Programs and Specializations

In addition to the minimum requirements and general criteria for admission, each Public Health degree program and specialization has particular criteria used in evaluating applicants for admission. An applicant's bachelor degree does not require a specific major for admission to the graduate degree programs; however, specific educational preparation/content may be required or recommended as prerequisite/foundation courses.

Public Health Specializations	Degrees Offered				Additional Requirements/Recommendations for Specialization
	MHA	MPH	MS	PhD	
Biomedical Informatics (offered jointly with the College of Medicine)		x	x		Students intending to pursue the Biomedical Informatics track in the MPH and MS degree program may enter via two academic pathways corresponding to preparatory work in either the computational/information or life sciences. Students with a strong background in the life sciences will choose electives focusing on computer science, project management, and data analysis principles; those students with strong backgrounds in the computational and information sciences will choose electives to help acculturate them to healthcare and biomedicine. Typically, successful applicants should demonstrate a record of academic quality, achieving greater than or equal to a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale; GRE scores greater than the 50th percentile, in verbal and quantitative; and greater than or equal to a 4 in analytical writing. Excellent recommendations and a strong personal statement are also very important for admittance into the programs.
Biostatistics		x	x	x	The most important background for biostatistics is good preparation in mathematics, especially courses in calculus and linear algebra. A first course in probability and statistics is desirable, and any applied statistics courses will be helpful. Familiarity with a statistical package (SAS, R, STATA, SPSS, etc.) is also desirable. Close attention will be paid to grades in quantitative courses of any kind. Minimum GPA is generally 3.0 and minimum GRE (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing score) should be at the 50th percentile or higher, and many students score well above that, especially on the quantitative portion.
Clinical Translational Sciences (offered jointly with the College of Medicine)		x			College-level science and math plus post-graduate training in medicine or one of the health sciences are required. Admission decisions are based largely on GPA, GRE (or equivalent) scores, recommendations, personal statement, and experience. Minimum GPA is generally 3.0 and minimum GRE (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing score) should be at the 50th percentile or higher. Performance on other standardized tests such as the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) will be considered in lieu of the GRE on an individual basis. The personal statement is examined for scientific writing ability, motivation for the degree, and for goodness of fit with the research interests of the faculty. The stronger the application is with respect to these elements, the more likely the student will be admitted.
Environmental Health Sciences		x	x	x	Earned bachelor degree in an applicable discipline with minimum 3.0/4.0 GPA and GRE (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing score) should be at 50th percentile or higher. Foundation courses should include college-level math, chemistry (incl. organic) and biology. However, students deficient in one or more of these areas may be considered, depending on academic preparation and applicable experience. Admission decisions are made largely based on foundation courses completed, GPA, GRE scores, recommendations, personal statement, and any relevant experience. The personal statement is reviewed for writing ability and alignment of the applicant's interests and motivation for the degree, relative to program focus and the expertise/interests of faculty. The stronger the application with respect to these elements (especially GPA and GRE), the more likely it will be to compete for admission.

Program					Description
Epidemiology		x	x	x	Strong undergraduate education in science and math is recommended. Admission decisions are made largely on GPA, GRE scores, recommendations, personal statements, and experience. Minimum GPA is generally 3.0 and minimum GRE (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing score) should be at the 50th percentile or higher. The personal statement is examined for writing ability, motivation for the degree, and for goodness of fit with the interests of the faculty. The stronger the application is with respect to these elements, the more likely the student will be admitted. Applicants applying to the doctoral program must have earned a master's degree in epidemiology or a related field.
Health Behavior & Health Promotion		x		x	Applicants should complete academic programs that allow them to develop good analytical and communication skills. Students are admitted from a wide variety of majors. Ideally, the applicant's record includes demonstrated excellence in the social and/or health sciences as well as coursework in quantitative methods. Applicants should also have work and/or volunteer experience that contributes to their career interest in health behavior and health promotion. Typically, successful MPH applicants should demonstrate a record of good grades (GPA ≥ 3.2), GRE scores (>50th percentile in verbal and quantitative; ≥ 4 analytical writing), good recommendations and a strong personal statement. Successful PhD applicants would normally have an undergraduate GPA greater than a 3.4 on a 4-point scale, GRE quantitative and verbal scores above the 60th percentile and analytical writing score above 4.0, strong recommendations with people familiar with your academic potential, and a match with faculty research interests. In general, HBHP requires the GRE for most applicants. The program will waive the GRE for students with a prior doctoral degree (MD, Ph.D). We accept alternate tests such as the MCAT and LSAT only for students who are applying to combined degree programs (MD/MPH and JD/MPH) and who have already been admitted to the other program (i.e. you are already in medical or law school). We will accept GRE scores older than 5 years (assuming the student has the appropriate documentation of the test scores) only for applicants who already have master's degrees; however, please note that if you wish to be considered for a fellowship, a recent GRE is essential.
Health Services Management and Policy	x	x		x	The program is highly interdisciplinary, thus prospective students come from a variety of undergraduate backgrounds including business, social sciences, physical and life sciences, and the humanities. The applicant's record must show evidence of good analytical and communication capabilities and quantitative skills. The MPH HSMP program will only consider applicants who already have or are currently completing a professional degree (MD, JD, etc.) or graduate degree (MBA, MSW, etc.). Applicants for the MHA degree should have an interest in pursuing a career in health care management. Undergraduate courses in economics and statistics are recommended for all HSMP applicants. Applicants for the MHA degree should have completed an introductory financial accounting course prior to enrolling in the program. Applicants for the MHA and MPH degrees should submit test scores from either the GRE or GMAT examination. Applicants for the PhD degree must submit GRE scores. A record of high grades (GPA > 3.0), GRE or GMAT scores (>50th percentile in all areas), good recommendations and a strong personal statement are generally required for admission.
Program for Experienced Professionals (PEP)		x			PEP students are expected to bring a significant experience base to their cohort in the program, and show potential for leadership positions in public health. Therefore, relevant experience is preferred. Typically, successful applicants should demonstrate a record of academic quality, achieving greater than or equal to a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale; GRE scores greater than the 50th percentile, in verbal and quantitative; and greater than or equal to a 4 in analytical writing. Excellent recommendations and a strong personal statement are also very important for admittance into the programs.
Veterinary Public Health (offered jointly with the College of Veterinary Medicine)		x			College-level courses in biology, microbiology, physiology, genetics, and/or related subjects are desirable, and student performance in these courses is considered. GRE scores should be competitive at the graduate level; however, GRE scores *may* be waived for professionals with doctoral degrees (e.g. MD, DVM) who maintained a GPA above 3.0 during their professional training and have several years of appropriate experience in the field.