

# Public Health

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## Department Information

- **Department Chair:**  
Pamela Jo Johnson, MPH, Ph.D., FACE
- **Department Location:**  
Aldevron Tower 6th Floor
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-6269
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/publichealth/](http://www.ndsu.edu/publichealth/) (<http://www.ndsu.edu/publichealth/>)
- **Application Deadline:**  
Early review begins November 15th rolling through March 1 or until full.
- **Credential Offered:**  
MPH
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
TOEFL ibT 90; IELTS 6.5; Duolingo 115

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## Program Description

Public health promotes and protects the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play. It is both an art and a science and is practiced by multidisciplinary teams of professionals whose training spans a wide array of social, biological, and clinical sciences. Public health professionals conduct research to identify the causes of disease and disability, address social determinants of health through programs and policy, monitor the spread of disease, promote healthy lifestyles through education and community engagement, and implement clinical practice or health and social policy change.

Our program offers specializations in community health sciences and epidemiology as well as focused courses in maternal and child health, and management of infectious diseases. The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree consists of 42 credits and can be completed in two years as a full-time graduate student. In addition, there are options for accelerated bachelor's to master's plans of study as well as dual degree options. A variety of Graduate Certificates are also available.

All applicants to the Master of Public Health program must demonstrate adequate preparation in a field related to public health and show potential to undertake advanced study, research and practical training as evidenced by previous academic accomplishment and experience.

All admission decisions are based upon full review of all information in the application in order to ensure fairness and to balance the limitations of any single element of the application, including practical experience in the field of public health.

### ***Minimum Program Admission Requirements***

1. Completion of the SOPHAS application (<https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/deeplink/programSearch/organization/2696958676395292399>) and NDSU Graduate School application ([https://ndsugrad.my.site.com/Application/TX\\_SiteLogin/?startURL=/Application/TargetX\\_Portal\\_\\_PB](https://ndsugrad.my.site.com/Application/TX_SiteLogin/?startURL=/Application/TargetX_Portal__PB)).
2. A baccalaureate degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university (for U.S. degrees, accreditation by one of the six regional accrediting associations: MSA, NASC, NCA, NEASC-CIHE, SACS-CC or WACS-Sr.).
3. An undergraduate and graduate (if applicable) cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.00. Undergraduate coursework in fields related to public health should generally exceed a GPA of 3.00.
4. No entrance exam is required (e.g. GRE). It is an optional item you can submit if you choose.
5. All graduate applicants must demonstrate academic-level proficiency with the English language before they will be considered for admission. This requirement must be met by all applicants, regardless of citizenship, residency, or nation of birth. No applicants will be considered for admission until the English Language Proficiency Requirement has been met. The English Proficiency Requirement will not be waived for any reason. This requirement may be satisfied in any of the following ways:
  - A bachelor's degree or higher from a recognized institution in the United States, England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Jamaica, Australia, New Zealand, or English Speaking Canada;
  - An overall minimum band score of 6.5 on the Academic Module IELTS;

- A satisfactory score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The expected minimum score is 233 for the computer-based test, 90 for the Internet-based test, and 577 for the paper-based test.
- Successful completion of English Language Service (ELS) Language Center's Intensive Level 112.

6. Applicants are required to submit the following supporting documentation

- Written Statement of Purpose and Goals – applicants must submit a one to two page, written narrative describing their education and skill set, relevant work experience, and current professional career goals. Applicants are expected to comment on their plans to use their education and training in public health in their future career. In addition, the application should highlight any personal qualities, characteristics and abilities they believe will enable them to be successful in achieving their professional career goals..
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Official post-secondary academic transcripts from all institutions attended (transcripts must be sent directly from the institutions to NDSU)
- Admissions Tests (as applicable) – scores must be sent by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) directly to NDSU. The institution code for the GRE and TOEFL for North Dakota State University is **6474** and Centralized Application Service for Public Health Programs (SOPHAS) Code **4770**.
- Two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who the applicant feels are most qualified to evaluate their academic achievement; clinical, public health or other professional experiences; or leadership potential in public health.

Early review begins November 15. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis through March 1 or until filled; accepted for fall, spring and summer terms

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Coursework</b>		
PH 675	One Health	2
PH 704	Public Health Management and Policy	3
PH 731	Biostatistics	3
PH 741	Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	3
PH 712	Public Health Research Methods	3
PH 745	Community Health Leadership	3
PH 706	Essentials of Epidemiology	3
PH 794	Practicum	3
PH 789	Integrative Learning Experience (Integrative Learning Experience)	1
Specialization Courses (select from below)		18
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>42</b>

### Epidemiology Option

Code	Title	Credits
PH 750	Epidemiologic Methods I	2
PH 752	Epidemiologic Methods II	2
PH 753	Public Health Surveillance	2
PH 754	Health Survey Research	2
<b>Select One Group from below for 10 credits:</b>		<b>10</b>
Group One: Management of Infectious Diseases		
PH 735	Principles of Infectious Disease Management I	
PH 736	Principles of Infectious Disease Management II	
Electives (4 credits)		
Group Two: American Indian Public Health		
PH 772	American Indian Health Equity	
PH 774	Research and Evaluation in Tribal Communities	
Electives (4 credits)		
Group Three: Electives (10 credits)		
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

**Community Health Sciences OPTION**

Code	Title	Credits
PH 700	Preventing and Managing Chronic Illness	3
PH 725	Promoting Health through Policy, System and Environment	3
PH 711	Integrating Primary Care and Public Health	3
PH 722	Applied Community Health	3
<b>Select One Group from below for 6 credits:</b>		<b>6</b>
Group One: Electives (6 credits)		
Group Two: American Indian Public Health		
PH 772	American Indian Health Equity	
PH 774	Research and Evaluation in Tribal Communities	
Group Three: Maternal and Child Health		
PH 781	Foundations of Maternal and Child Health	
PH 782	Introduction to Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology	
PH 790	Graduate Seminar	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

For more information about MPH options, please visit the website ([https://www.ndsu.edu/publichealth/degrees\\_and\\_programs/degree\\_specializations/](https://www.ndsu.edu/publichealth/degrees_and_programs/degree_specializations/)).

**M.P.H. in Epidemiology**

Code	Title	Credits
PH 704	Public Health Management and Policy	3
PH 706	Essentials of Epidemiology	3
PH 712	Public Health Research Methods	3
PH 720	Environmental Health	2
PH 731	Biostatistics	3
PH 741	Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	3
PH 745	Community Health Leadership	3
PH 750	Epidemiologic Methods I	2
PH 752	Epidemiologic Methods II	2
PH 753	Public Health Surveillance	2
PH 754	Health Survey Research	2
PH 789	Integrative Learning Experience	1
PH 794	Practicum	3
<b>Select one group from below.</b>		<b>10</b>
Group One: Management of Infectious Diseases		
PH 735	Principles of Infectious Disease Management I	
PH 736	Principles of Infectious Disease Management II	
Electives		
Group Two: American Indian Public Health		
PH 772	American Indian Health Equity	
PH 774	Research and Evaluation in Tribal Communities	
Group Three: Electives		
Electives		
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>42</b>

Students cannot receive credit for past work experience.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>American Indian Public Health</b>		
PH 704	Public Health Management and Policy	3

PH 772	American Indian Health Equity	3
PH 774	Research and Evaluation in Tribal Communities	3

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**Total Credits** **9**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>General Public Health</b>		
PH 704	Public Health Management and Policy	3
PH 741	Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	3
PH 706	Essentials of Epidemiology	3
PH 745	Community Health Leadership	3

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**Total Credits** **12**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Infection Prevention</b>		
PH 704	Public Health Management and Policy	3
PH 735	Principles of Infectious Disease Management I	3
PH 736	Principles of Infectious Disease Management II	3
PH 706	Essentials of Epidemiology	3

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**Total Credits** **12**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Maternal and Child Health</b>		
PH 704	Public Health Management and Policy	3
or PH 745	Community Health Leadership	
PH 781	Foundations of Maternal and Child Health	3
PH 782	Introduction to Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology	2
PH 790	Graduate Seminar	1

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**Total Credits** **9**

#### Faculty

Akshaya Bhagavathula, Ph.D.

Andrea Huseeth, Ph.D., CPH

Mark Strand, Ph.D., CPH

Mary Larson, Ph.D., MPH, RD, CDE, CHES

Pamela Jo Johnson, MPH, Ph.D., FACE

Paul Carson, MD, FACP

Ramona Danielson, Ph.D.

Stefanie Meyer, Ph.D., CSCS

Tracie Newman, MD, MPH

Tracy Miller, Ph.D., MPH