

DEPARTMENT OF

Behavioral and Community Health

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH



“What inspired me to study public health was the opportunity to improve the health of individuals on a larger scale. At UMD, I see the drive that motivated faculty to pursue public health and it inspires me to be excited for what lies ahead.”

NASREEN JONES, BS '12, MPH '16
BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

Our department focuses on individual and community lifestyle behaviors and aspects of our social environment that affect our health. Practitioners and researchers in this field use theory and evidence based practices to seek out ways to encourage people to make healthy choices. The Department of Behavioral and Community Health prepares graduates to improve the health of communities through health promotion and disease prevention. By understanding the different aspects of behavioral and community health, students are able to actively engage with communities to develop approaches and solutions to everyday health issues.

Behavioral and community health also seeks to improve the public's health through the application of social and behavioral sciences. Through studying behavior, graduates are able to not just understand disease, but are also able to modify the incidence, prevalence, and mortality rates of many diseases that affect the communities in which we live. Additionally, community health specialists promote more efficient uses of health services, adopt self-care practices, and participate actively in the design and implementation of health programs.

The Department of Behavioral and Community Health works to establish community relationships in order to develop community interventions. The faculty and students of this department promote and foster active collaboration with researchers and community partners from many different specialties and institutions. By working with the University of Maryland, the department has established several partnerships and research and service centers that work to actively engage the community in a variety of capacities.

GRADUATE DEGREES OFFERED:

Master of Public Health, Behavioral and Community Health

The MPH in Behavioral and Community Health program is designed 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 in communities. Graduates in this 42-credit degree program that can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis will participate in both academic and applied training in program planning and implementation, program evaluation, public policy analysis, research and management.

Doctor of Philosophy, Behavioral and Community Health

Doctoral candidates in Behavioral and Community Health will develop research skills essential to contributing to the scientific and professional literature in behavioral and community health. Additionally, students will learn to evaluate the health needs of various populations and acquire the skills to lead community health promotion programs and implement policies. This degree program emphasizes training in specific research skills and the ability to implement theoretical knowledge.

Career Opportunities

Behavioral and Community Health MPH and PhD graduates are being sought in the field of public health, especially in the area of behavioral science. Career opportunities abound in both the private and public sectors - in public health agencies, volunteer programs, in business and in industry.

THE SCHOOL

Our vision is to be a leader in the discovery, application, and dissemination of public health knowledge in the state of Maryland, the nation, and the world. Faculty and students are involved in a broad range of scientific endeavors that advance knowledge through basic and applied research aimed at understanding and enhancing health and well-being across the lifespan. With a strong emphasis on promoting health equity and justice, many of our programs involve community-based participatory research and translational investigations, leading to dissemination of research findings into practice for personal and population health.

With over 2,000 students in more than 25 different degrees and academic programs, our School of Public Health prepares students to tackle longstanding and emerging public health issues and make meaningful contributions to the health and welfare of individuals and society. We do this utilizing the tools of traditional public health disciplines, and in collaboration with fields as varied as engineering, arts and humanities, business and public policy.

THE UNIVERSITY

A global leader in research, entrepreneurship and innovation, Maryland is ranked No. 21 among public universities by *U.S. News & World Report* and No. 14 among public universities by *Forbes*. The Institute of Higher Education, which ranks the world's top universities based on research, puts Maryland at No. 38 in the world, No. 29 nationally and No. 13 among U.S. public research institutions. Located "inside the beltway" just minutes from the nation's capital, the University of Maryland, College Park campus provides unparalleled access to unique opportunities for internships and research experiences in public health, including placements at the National

Institutes of Health (NIH), the CDC Washington Office, other agencies and offices in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's National Medical Center, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and many other national, state, and local health agencies. In addition to being a vibrant hub of research and policy, the D.C. area's rich and diverse culture make it an especially lively, friendly, and accessible community where students, faculty and staff can thrive professionally and personally.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

All admissions deadlines are for fall 2016 matriculation.

MPH, Behavioral and Community Health
Domestic applicants

12/15/2015 (preferred)

6/1/2016 (final)

International applicants

12/15/2015

PhD, Behavioral and Community Health

11/15/2015 (preferred)

2/15/2016 (final)

International applicants

11/15/2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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