YOUR PATH TO MAKING AN IMPACT AND DOING PUBLIC HEALTH GOOD STARTS HERE
“What I enjoy about public health is that it is a bold and noble profession; we’re out to do good.”

—Dean Boris Lushniak, MD, MPH
At the University of Maryland School of Public Health, we are driven by a passion to break down the barriers that keep individuals, families, communities and populations from attaining optimum health and wellness. We are committed to finding new and better ways to promote health, prevent disease and prolong active, high-quality lives.

There are so many issues that impact health – including obesity, climate change, substance abuse, violence, aging and poverty. And while these are all complex issues, we Terps love a challenge.

WHY CHOOSE PUBLIC HEALTH?
» You do it because you have a desire to serve
» You do it because health care should not be a privilege
» You do it to promote equity and opportunity
» You do it because you want to have a global impact
» You do it because prevention saves lives and money
» You do it because scientific evidence informs smart solutions
» You do it because your zip code shouldn’t determine how long you live
» You do it because you care about people

Join us on a fearless journey to do public health good...
Why choose public health at the University of Maryland? Our exceptional faculty and staff, combined with our prime location just outside Washington, D.C., make all the difference. Here are the top seven factors that set us apart:

1. OUR UNPARALLELED ACCESS TO UNIQUE RESEARCH AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
   >> Intern at the CDC-National Center for Health Statistics, the Environmental Protection Agency or any of the many other federal agencies in our backyard
   >> Attend presentations by top researchers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) or the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
   >> Meet professionals from national organizations, like the American Public Health Association or the National Academy of Medicine
   >> Develop a capstone project with an international organization headquartered in Washington, D.C.
   >> Engage in the legislative process at the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis or on Capitol Hill

2. OUR COMMITMENT TO TEACHING AND MENTORING
   >> Be mentored by advisors who will give you personalized attention to guide your career path
   >> Learn from renowned experts in public health research and practice
   >> Study with award-winning teachers and mentors committed to your career
   >> Hone your skills as a teaching assistant in our diverse undergraduate programs

3. OUR AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
   >> Conduct research in local communities on projects that seek to improve health care access, increase physical activity or prevent cancer, among others
   >> Help organize events that provide free health care for underserved populations, such as the Mid-Maryland Mission of Mercy and Health Equity Festival
   >> Join other UMD students on interdisciplinary projects in partnership with global communities through Public Health Without Borders
4. OUR INDIVIDUALIZED AND FLEXIBLE PROGRAMS

- Select from graduate programs that allow part-time study suited for working professionals.
- Take courses at other D.C. metro area universities as part of a unique educational arrangement, the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area or at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore as part of a collaboration with their Department of Epidemiology and Public Health.

5. OUR FOCUS ON PROMOTING HEALTH EQUITY AND JUSTICE

- Participate in the Maryland Center for Health Equity’s Collegium of Scholars to provoke your thinking on how race, ethnicity, class and other factors affect health.
- Apply cutting edge health communication and health literacy principles to improve community health with our Horowitz Center for Health Literacy.
- Work with the Community Engagement, Environmental Justice and Health Initiative to empower communities using science in support of environmental justice causes.

6. OUR COMMITMENT TO FEARLESS IDEAS

- Apply new and emerging technologies to address intractable public health problems through the Gold Public Health Innovation Award, which rewards the best student concepts with funds to help get the idea off the ground.
- Collaborate with students across campus who are using design thinking to create innovative solutions to issues like food insecurity, drug addiction and immigrant children’s mental health.

7. OUR DIVERSE, SUPPORTIVE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

- Be part of a highly diverse student body; 50 percent of our undergraduate students and 40 percent of our graduate students come from underrepresented minority groups.
- Participate in one of several student groups based in the School of Public Health or across the university.
SPH AT A GLANCE

DEPARTMENTS AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:
- Behavioral and Community Health
- Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Family Science
- Health Services Administration
- Institute for Applied Environmental Health
- Kinesiology

SELECTED CENTERS:
- Maryland Center for Health Equity
- Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
- CONSERVE: A Center of Excellence at the Nexus of Sustainable Water Reuse, Food, and Health
- Center for Healthy Families
- Center on Young Adult Health and Development
- Center on Aging

TOTAL STUDENT BODY: 2,820
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS: 2,414

GRADUATE STUDENTS: 406
MPH STUDENTS: 207
OTHER MASTER'S STUDENTS: 55
DOCTORAL STUDENTS: 144

58% STUDENTS OF COLOR
25+ DEGREES AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
164 FACULTY MEMBERS
48 STAFF

RESEARCH DOLLARS: $17 MILLION 2018
Accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health since 2010
RANKED 22 Best Graduate Schools U.S. News & World Report
RESEARCH

Our research spans from the cellular to the societal level and is making a difference in critical areas, from understanding climate change’s impact on health, to physical activity’s benefits to aging brains, to preventing cancer through community-based interventions, and much more. Our school’s heritage dates back more than a century, and is built upon strong expertise in kinesiology, as well as family science and behavioral and community health. Our school applies these strengths and all the other traditional public health disciplines – including environmental health, epidemiology and biostatistics, and health policy and management – to translate research into policies and strategies to promote and prolong health throughout the lifespan.

STRATEGIC RESEARCH THEMES

Optimizing Health Across the Lifespan

Project examples include:

- Investigating the role of physical activity in offsetting Alzheimer’s disease risk and maintaining cognitive health as we age
- Studying risk factors for e-cigarette use among youth and developing public health programs and mass media campaigns to show the harmful effects of flavored e-cigarettes and flavored tobacco products
- Exploring the role of fathers in family health and child development
- Documenting how exposure to environmental and social stressors affects child neurological development

Reducing Health Disparities and Achieving Health Equity

Project examples include:

- Increasing participation of minority populations in public health and biomedical research, including clinical trials
- Promoting integrated health care coordination to improve population mental health
- Community based interventions and education to improve cancer screening in at-risk populations

Promoting Health and Preventing Disease Through Improved Health Literacy

Project examples include:

- Developing a smartphone app in English and Spanish with personal goals, personal and family health history, and disease prevention and health promotion information for African American, bilingual and Spanish-speaking adults
- Educating the health care workforce on culturally competent best practices

Improving Global Health and Mitigating Health Impacts of Climate Change

Project examples include:

- Investigating climate change impact on health and disease, developing strategies to mitigate adverse health outcomes and improve community resilience
- Developing new technologies to enable water reuse that can be safely used for food production
I chose the MPH in environmental health sciences because it provided the perfect intersection between environment and health and was focused on the application of how we help improve people’s lives.

**Professional Focus**
Climate change adaptation and planning; environmental health impact assessments; communication and intervention programming for vulnerable communities

**What public health means to me**
Public health is not just about keeping people healthy now. It is also about rectifying the decisions that have been made in the past that have left certain groups sicker or less able to live a happy healthy life with dignity.

**What the public health field should be focusing on**
We need to increase the participation of vulnerable communities in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Without their engagement, many vulnerable people and populations are going to be left out of climate action plans and are at risk of suffering disproportionately from the impacts.

**Professors truly invested in my success**
My internship was working on the ScienceBEAT team, an innovative educational partnership between the University of Maryland and participating middle schools in Prince George’s County, Md. The team included experts from public health, journalism, atmospheric sciences and education who developed a curriculum aimed at increasing students’ awareness and understanding of climate change issues. My internship provided me hands-on experience with applied environmental health and taught me invaluable lessons about best science communication practices that I continue to use in my work today.

I really appreciated the breadth of classes available in the MPH program. I learned so much and got a taste of so many aspects of public health. The professors were truly invested in the students and their success across the SPH. The mentorship I received made a big difference for me. I continue to engage with my professors and work with several of them.
I chose Maryland for its reputation and for the flexibility of the online MPH program. The University of Maryland is close to the action in D.C., so it was a great choice for me since I am interested in health policy. The affordability of the program was also attractive!

How the MPH changed my path
Going through this program changed my career trajectory. I wanted to go into medical school, but I realized that I didn’t necessarily need to go that route to make a positive impact in the functioning of a hospital. My path now is directed at being a hospital administrator and leading a health system that is focused on helping vulnerable communities. I am also pursuing my Doctor of Health Administration degree from the Medical University of South Carolina.

A personal experience
It was an online master’s program, but we had a lot of in-person interaction because most of my cohort was based in D.C. with me. I developed friends and colleagues with whom I still communicate. I was initially nervous about the online environment, but my experience was very personal.

What motivates me
Hands down, working to promote health equity for the communities that hospitals are serving is what motivates me. My MPH internship was with MedStar Health and they hired me as a full-time manager for community health outreach after I completed the internship. I gained so much from being in the community working with patients and community health workers. In my executive fellowship with the American Hospital Association, I have been working with the National Urban League to address inequities in health care through the use of community health workers, and increasing diversity in health care leadership across the U.S.

Affiliations
American College of Healthcare Executives
National Association of Health Services Executives
The University of Maryland's location inside the Capital Beltway, just minutes from the heart of the nation's capital, provides unique internship, research and professional opportunities for students. Here is a sampling of some of the organizations with whom we partner.
### 2017-18 SPH GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT DATA

#### by industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSULTING FIRM OR OTHER FOR-PROFIT FIRM</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASSOCIATION, FOUNDATION, NGO, OR NON-PROFIT</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOSPITAL OR OTHER HEALTHCARE PROVIDER</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOREIGN GOVERNMENT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OTHER THAN DHHS</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other includes US military, a clinical research organization, and an elementary/secondary academic institution.
AMANDA HEMMER  MHA ’15

Program
Master of Health Administration

Hometown
Raleigh, North Carolina

Undergraduate Degree
North Carolina State University
BS ’11, Psychology and Sociology; Minor in Health Medicine and Human Values

“I chose the Master of Health Administration program because I was interested in how health systems function and wanted to understand the pain points and pitfalls for the patient and their family. I like focusing on design to prevent problems in the first place. The MHA program provides a good mix of core public health principles and health care strategy taught through practical experiences that aren’t available in other programs.”

Professional Focus
Data visualization and analysis, strategic and operational management practice, health systems research and design, and health reform policy and evaluation

Turning my dreams into reality
The school was always willing to work with me to pursue my own interests. I did an internship in patient advocacy at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Clinical Center and my capstone project in biomedical technologies with the NIH at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI).

Following graduation, I embarked on a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research in Copenhagen, Denmark focused on hospital finance and health system reform, which drew parallels to the U.S. healthcare system. It was an incredible experience that changed my life by allowing me to understand health in a more global context. The School of Public Health supported my dreams, and helped me transform them into a reality.

Proud to play a leadership role
I co-founded the Health Services Administration Student Association (HSASA). We created professional networking opportunities, educational programming and built a community within our department. HSASA strengthened the student-faculty connection and increased overall program impact. It’s bigger today than ever before. I was proud to be a leader then, and I am proud to play a leadership role in the SPH Alumni Network today. Our newest initiative, the SPH Mentor Program, gives SPH alumni a tangible way to reconnect with the school and links students to alums in the real world across many different health care industries.
EDWARD GRANT  MPH ’13

Concentration  Biostatistics  
Hometown   Buffalo, New York  
Undergraduate Degree  University of Michigan  
BS ’06, Mathematical Biology

What I liked about getting my MPH at Maryland is that it was great having access to the resources of a large university but with the personal elements of a small program.

Professional Focus  
Statistical analysis for pharmaceutical drug development compliant with the FDA, clinical trial design, managing a biostatistics and programming team

Very hands on and intellectually challenging
The experience with my advisor was all I could have asked for out of the master’s program. A lot of people get a degree, but there isn’t much practical hands-on experience. My work used cutting edge techniques like developing R packages for high dimensional data analysis and applying them to real life data collected by the research team in the SPH. I published multiple papers and won an award for a research poster, which was helpful to my career. It was very intellectually challenging beyond just the papers and tests.

I also got really good experiences at two internships, including at the CDC National Center for Health Statistics in the Office of Research and Methodology and at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, working in their Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Great social experience
It was helpful to have such easy access to the faculty, and my cohort was small so we took the same classes together. It was a great experience socially—we went to happy hours together outside of class and remained friends after graduation.

What gets me up in the morning
Public health has the potential to change people’s lives for the better. My company focuses on drug development for rare diseases and serving a need that is not being met by larger pharmaceutical companies. Contributing to something that can save lives and improve quality of life is what gets me up in the morning.
I enjoy that it is a smaller program because you are able to collaborate and network with professors in the School of Public Health. I love that they encourage students to develop through collaborations and research partnerships.

Professional Focus
Exploring social and structural factors of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among vulnerable populations.

Why I chose Maryland
After I did my MPH, I got a fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention HIV Incidence and Case Surveillance Branch in Atlanta. I realized that I wanted to learn the epidemiological research methods and become an independent researcher. I found the social epidemiology track at UMD, which bridged epidemiology, social determinants of health and community health. Once I met my advisor, we just clicked and I knew it was the right place for me.

The public health field should focus on
Building a workforce that is capable of addressing health inequities to build thriving and sustainable communities. My work fits into this because I want to be a professor and build courses that help students think outside the box to solve public health issues. It is very important for public health.

A flame was lit
In 7th grade, I was invited to join an HIV peer education group where we would talk to other people our age about HIV and other STIs. It was like a flame was lit, and I have always known that I wanted to be involved in this work. Coming from a rural, religious southern community, to talk openly about topics related to sexuality can be challenging. But my mom saw early on that I was a sexual health activist and advocate. Recently, when I went home to North Carolina, I spoke about HIV prevalence and prevention for a teen awareness day at my home church.
GRADUATE DEGREE
OPTIONS AND NEXT STEPS

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Our Master of Public Health programs provide unmatched opportunities to work across disciplines and will prepare you for the specific career you seek in public health. As an MPH student at UMD, you will be part of a cohort that will take a set of core courses of 14 credits over three semesters together. These courses provide innovative instruction in a number of areas of public health, including data collection and analysis, policy, health care systems, communication, ethics and leadership. After completing the integrated core, you will take courses in your chosen concentration area. You will also have the opportunity to pursue internships unique to the Maryland/D.C. national capital region and relevant capstone projects. The 45-credit program can be completed within two years for full-time students. Students may select from evening courses and part-time options.

MPH concentrations include:

- Behavioral and Community Health
- Biostatistics
- Epidemiology
- Environmental Health Sciences
- Health Equity
- Health Policy Analysis and Evaluation
- Physical Activity
- Public Health Practice and Policy (online)

MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
Develop a strong knowledge base in health care management and health services delivery systems in an era of health-care reform.

RESEARCH-FOCUSED MASTER’S DEGREES
- MA, Kinesiology (focus areas include cognitive motor neuroscience, exercise physiology, physical cultural studies)
- MS, Environmental Health Sciences

OTHER PROFESSIONAL TRACK MASTER’S DEGREES
- MS, Couple and Family Therapy
- MEd, with certification in Physical Education

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) DEGREES
- Behavioral and Community Health
- Epidemiology
- Family Science
- Health Services
- Kinesiology
- Maternal and Child Health
- Environmental Health Sciences

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES
- Principles of Public Health (online)
- Global Health
- Gerontology
NEXT STEPS

We welcome prospective students to connect with us to explore if the UMD School of Public Health is the right fit for your career goals. You may attend a graduate programs open house or schedule a visit with one of our graduate program directors or members of our academic affairs team.

Research the degree programs and concentrations of interest to you at: 

sph.umd.edu/degrees

Contact the program director with specific questions and to schedule a visit: 

sph.umd.edu/graddirectors

Deadlines and application information: 

sph.umd.edu/gradadmissions

FINANCING YOUR DEGREE

Explore options for financing your degree by visiting the UMD Graduate School's website: gradschool.umd.edu/funding

You can view current tuition and fees by visiting sph.umd.edu/tuition

We hope you will join us in our pursuit to fearlessly promote health for all!