

BEHAVIORAL *AND* COMMUNITY HEALTH

Our department focuses on individual and community lifestyle behaviors and aspects of the 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. We prepare graduates to improve the health of communities through health promotion and disease prevention initiatives. 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 also 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 use of health services, the adoption of self-care practices, and participate actively in the design and implementation of health programs.

Our department works to establish community relationships that inform community interventions. Our faculty and students promote and foster active collaboration with researchers and community partners from many different specialties and institutions. By working with University of Maryland colleagues, we have established several partnerships and research and service centers that work to actively engage the community in health promotion activities.



Heather Platter
PhD '19

Cancer Prevention Fellow
National Cancer Institute

“Doing the PhD in behavioral and community health really set me up to be successful as a leader in the cancer research field.”



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH



ABOUT THE
**UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND**

RANKED

8

Best Value College
Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine

RANKED

15

Most Innovative School
U.S. News & World Report

RANKED

22

Public Research Institution
U.S. News & World Report

Graduate Degrees Offered

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

Option for in-person or online program. In-person program offers fall admission; online program offers fall and spring admission.

The MPH in behavioral and community health synthesizes knowledge and skills on the social and cultural aspects of populations as they relate to the current and future health status of communities. The program emphasizes the idea that population health status results from the interplay of individual behavior and social, political, medical/health and economic systems of a society. Students will learn about methods of community health needs assessment, program planning and development, health behavior theory

application, public health leadership, community-based participatory research and translational research techniques. Graduates in this 45-credit degree program, which 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

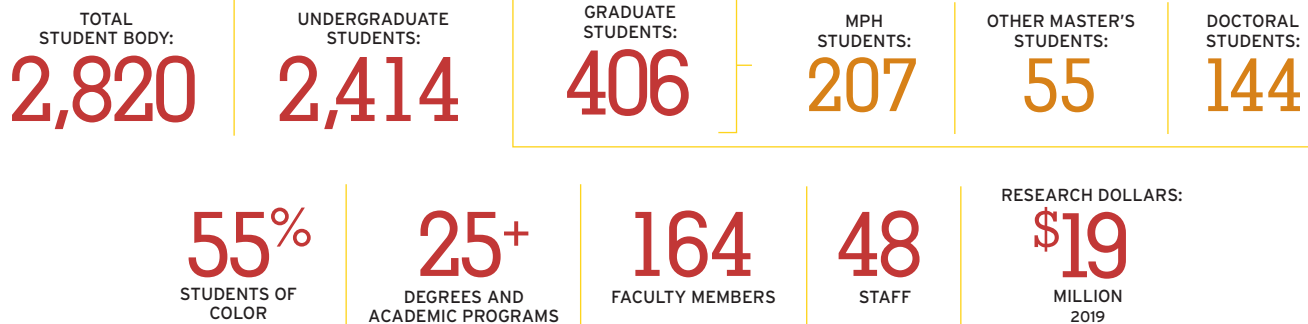
Doctoral candidates in Behavioral and Community Health will develop research skills essential to contributing to the scientific and professional literature in behavioral and community health.

Additionally, students will learn how to evaluate the health needs of various populations and then go on to develop and evaluate interventions using a socioecological framework. 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.

SPH AT A GLANCE



For deadlines and application instructions, please visit sph.umd.edu/gradadmissions

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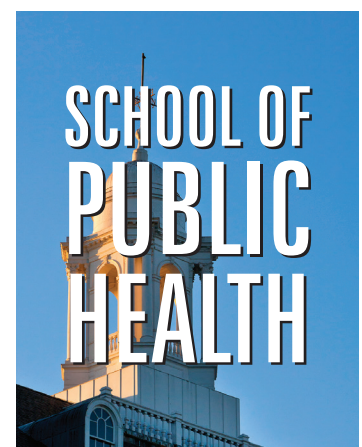
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sph.umd.edu/bch



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL
AND COMMUNITY HEALTH



GRADUATE
PROGRAMS