

Online MPH in Public Health Practice

PROGRAM INFORMATION



UMass Amherst

School of Public Health
& Health Sciences

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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The UMass Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences (SPHHS) online Master of Public Health in Public Health Practice degree is designed for working professionals. Our program builds on 25 years of online teaching experience. As a publicly funded not-for-profit institute of higher education, our focus is on you and your success.



WHAT SETS US APART

- **Small Class Sizes:** Core classes are capped at 40 students; electives are capped at 25 students.
- **Accessible Faculty:** Faculty available to answer questions, address concerns, and provide guidance.
- **Dedicated Advising Services:** Professional advising tailored to your academic and career goals.
- **Comprehensive Career Services:** Full access to UMass SPHHS career services during your time in the program and for up to 6 months afterward.
- **Flexible Learning Path:** Progress through the program at your own pace.
- **Community Building:** Connect with faculty, staff, and fellow students at in-person and virtual events, including new student orientation and graduation.

CURRICULUM

Credits: 42 Total

Required Core Course (18 credits):

- SPHHS 605 - Health Equity & the Foundations of Public Health Practice
- SPHHS 606 - Leading Change: Policy, Advocacy, & Ethics
- SPHHS 615 - Epidemiology and Biostatistics, A: Description, Estimation, & Exposures
- SPHHS 616 - Epidemiology and Biostatistics, B: Evidence, Threats, & Action
- HPP 642 - Leadership in Public Health Systems
- EHS 565 - Environmental Health Practices

Required Research Courses (9 credits):

- HPP 624 - Research Methods
- SPHHS 698M - Practicum
- SPHHS 681 - Capstone

Five Electives of your Choice (15 credits). Examples include:

- HPP 639 - Health Disparities
- HPP 583 - Global Health in the Developing World
- HPP 750 - Public Health Emergency Management
- HPP 704 - Health Program Planning

PRACTICUM

The Practicum is a semester-long experience working in a public health organization or agency of your choice in your geographical area. Through the practicum, you will have the opportunity to:

- Work with professionals in the field of public health
- Create 2 work products for the organization
- Make your own hours (there are no required number of hours)
- Get support from faculty sponsor and site supervisor





CAPSTONE

The Capstone is a semester-long, culminating research paper or project. You will have the opportunity to:

- Research public health topic of your choice
- Work with faculty to learn best research practices
- Pursue a topic related to your practicum experience (optional)

MEET THE FACULTY



Dr. Lawrence Pellegrini, Director of the Online MPH in Public Health Practice and Senior Lecturer in Health Policy and Management

Research focus: Social Security Disability, health economics and mental health



Dr. Leso Munala, Visiting Lecturer in Public Health Practice

Research focus: Violence against women, including sexual violence, and post-rape care services



Dr. Elena Nuciforo, Visiting Lecturer in Public Health Practice

Research focus: Focus on community health, education, program evaluation, leadership in health care systems, and public health communications.

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

Tuition

\$675 per credit

Regardless of location

ADDITIONAL FEES

Application Fee:
\$150 SOPHAS
\$60 UMass
Supplemental

Graduate School one-time entrance fee:
\$507

Registration fee (each semester):
\$85

“How can I pay
for my MPH?”

MILITARY DISCOUNT

Active military members and veterans are eligible for a 10% tuition discount.

EMPLOYER ASSISTANCE

Some employers offer tuition reimbursement or remission. Check with your HR office to see if this is available to you.

PAYMENT PLANS

You can arrange to make payment plans of 4 equal payments over the semester.

FINANCIAL AID OR PRIVATE LOANS

US Citizens can apply for Federal Student Loans through FAFSA

READY TO APPLY?

Admissions Requirements

These minimum requirements cannot be waived

- A bachelor's degree
- A cumulative minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- Most successful applicants will have an equivalent GPA of at least 3.0 in both undergraduate and graduate work
- At least 2 years of professional Experience in Health Care or Public Health
 - one year can be waived if you hold an BA or BS in Public Health
 - one year can be waived if you have a graduate certificate in Public Health
- For international applicants or those U.S. citizens who completed their education internationally, the bachelor's degree must be translated and evaluated as equivalent to a four-year degree from the U.S.

Application Deadlines & Required Materials

We consider applications twice a year:

- Spring admissions deadline is **Nov. 15th**
- Fall admissions deadline is **June 15 (with a Feb. 1st priority deadline)**

Materials you need to apply:

- CV/résumé Personal statement
- Graduate School Admissions Essay on Diversity
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official transcripts from all institutions attended, including any community college prior to university
- TOEFL (if applicable) UMass code: 3917
- Application fees:
 - SOPHAS: \$150
 - UMass Supplemental \$60

SOPHAS

At UMass Amherst, we follow a two-step application process:

1. Complete your application in [SOPHAS](#). You will pay \$150 for the first application; if you are applying to more than one school or program, the fee is \$60 for each additional application (Note: SOPHAS application fees are paid to SOPHAS, not UMass).
2. Complete your UMass Supplemental Application in Slate. After your SOPHAS application has been submitted and verified, it will be transferred into Slate within 72 hours. You will receive an email from UMass to create an account in Slate, submit the UMass Supplemental Application, and pay the associated \$60 UMass Supplemental Application fee.

Your application will not be considered until the entire 2-step process is completed. You can find detailed application instructions here: [MPH-PHP Admissions](#)

3 months

**Begin the
SOPHAS
Application**

2 months

**Submit the
SOPHAS
Application**

1 month

**After SOPHAS
verification,
submit UMass
supplemental
application in
Slate.**

2 weeks

**Pay UMass
application fee
and confirm
completed
application.**

HOW TO REACH US



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Schedule an Appointment

Find us on the web

[UMass SPHHS: Online MPH in Public Health Practice](#)

