Admission requirements

UC Davis’ M.P.H. program is designed for individuals interested in disease prevention and community health. The application deadline is January 15 each year; see the full requirements online at mph.ucdavis.edu.

Applicants must complete and submit results from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) using Institution Code: 4834 and Department Code: 0616. Applicants must take the GRE by the December test date to ensure scores (valid for five years) arrive by the application deadline.

As an exception, Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) scores taken within seven years of application may be submitted in lieu of GREs by current students or recent graduates of a U.S. or Canadian M.D. or D.O. degree program.

Graduate Studies requires the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if your native language is not English or your instruction has not been in English. The minimum score required by UC Davis is 550 for the paper test, 80 for the Internet-based test.

Why UC Davis?

- Top-ranked faculty in public health and related disciplines
- Strong collaborative links with the California Department of Public Health, local health departments and other public health agencies
- An urban setting, yet close to rural areas
- Practical approach to preparing students for careers in public health

Questions?

Amber Carrere, Student Affairs Officer
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“In this era of pandemic flu preparedness and infectious disease and emergency planning, population health experts are in high demand. After studying zoonotic disease, completing my practicum on West Nile virus surveillance and serving a year in the Senate, I now consult with firms bringing health programs and products to federal agencies.”

Wendy Shelton, D.V.M., M.P.H., Class of 2004

“The UC Davis M.P.H. program is outstanding. The students are consistently of the highest caliber.”

Ron Chapman, M.D., M.P.H., director and state health officer, California Department of Public Health
Earn your M.P.H. at UC Davis

Numerous ailments – from obesity and cardiovascular disease to cancer and smoking-related illnesses – can be addressed through a public health approach. Public health professionals at UC Davis develop skills used to prevent and control disease and improve the health of populations worldwide. The Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree program is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health.

Learn from the best

Public health is interdisciplinary by nature. The program’s dynamic curriculum features experts in the areas of public health, epidemiology, veterinary medicine, biostatistics and informatics, social determinants of health, rural health, occupational and environmental health, nutrition, health services research and policy, food safety, telemedicine, and infectious and zoonotic diseases.

Engagement with fellow students in other health programs on campus is an important aspect of the M.P.H. learning experience. The program features a culturally and professionally diverse student body – students reflect the cultural richness of California and the world and include physicians, veterinarians, medical and veterinary students, dentists, nurse practitioners and others with interest in disease prevention and public health.

Tackle real-world issues

UC Davis is just minutes away from policy makers and public officials in Sacramento, leaders whose decisions influence policies and set trends well beyond California. The program’s practicum project pairs students with mentors at the California Department of Public Health, local health departments and other public health organizations, resulting in a wealth of professional contacts and hands-on experience.

Reach new professional heights

Students can earn their M.P.H. degree in epidemiology or general public health. Graduates bring their passion for public health to rewarding and meaningful positions.

Enjoy the good life

Davis is a charming college town with a vibrant community spirit. The city boasts a lively downtown, renowned farmers market, diverse community festivals, outdoor recreation with more than 95 miles of bikeways, and cultural and entertainment venues, including the Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts.

Want an occasional change of scenery?

Davis is:
- 15 miles west of Sacramento
- 75 miles east of the San Francisco Bay Area
- One hour from Napa and Sonoma wine country
- Two hours from Lake Tahoe and Sierra ski resorts
- 20 miles from Sacramento International Airport

Our students have a passion for promoting health… for solving old problems in new ways… for uniting science and compassion… for making a difference in California, the nation and the world. They graduate with knowledge and experience that transforms their passion into their profession.

Engage your mind

Students are required to complete 56 units, including:
- Core coursework in:
  - Biostatistics
  - Epidemiology
  - Environmental Health Sciences
  - Health Services Administration
  - Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Current topics in public health seminar
- Practicum experience (300 hours in a public health agency)
- Elective coursework

“The UC Davis M.P.H. program offers a broad range of interactive and applied elective courses, taught by faculty who tackle real world public health issues. Thanks to the program’s partnerships with the Department of Public Health and other health organizations I had opportunities to network with other public health professionals while completing my degree and was successful in obtaining employment immediately following graduation.”

Nichole Sturmfels, M.P.H., C.P.H., research scientist, California Department of Public Health – Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division, Class of 2009