Bachelor of Science or Arts/Master of Public Health

Program Contacts

School of Public Health

- Sophie Godley, MPH, Director of Undergraduate Programs
  Website
- Brendan Hoey, Assistant Director of Advising

Partner School Contacts

Requirements

The xx/MPH program is offered jointly by xxx and the School of Public Health. This dual degree program requires a minimum of five years of full-time study to acquire a Bachelor of XXX degree and the Master of Public Health degree at the School of Public Health.

By the time of graduation from the bachelor’s degree program, and as a condition of entry into the SPH, students must have successfully completed the following core courses for the MPH program and will have selected a functional area certificate to pursue.

1. PH717 A1 Quantitative Methods for Public Health
2. PH718 A1 Leadership and Management in Public Health
3. PH719 A1 Health Systems, Law, and Policy
4. PH720 A1 Individual, Community and Population Health

These 16 credits of graduate-level School of Public Health coursework are completed in the last two years of undergraduate study and applied to both the xx and MPH degrees. At the completion of the xx degree requirements (128+ credits), the Bachelor’s degree will be awarded. At the end of the fifth year or a minimum of 32+ additional credits of SPH coursework, the Master in Public Health degree will be awarded.

Course Planning

Students are required to meet with the director of undergraduate education or a staff member in the School of Public Health Registrar’s Office shortly after being accepted into the dual degree program in order to plan their public health courses. Proactive planning is essential for timely completion of all MPH requirements. The tentative schedule of courses should then be
reviewed with the student’s undergraduate faculty advisor and the Assistant Director of Advising at the School of Public Health.

The four core courses required of all MPH candidates provide a broad exposure to the field of public health.

Application & Admission

Eligibility

The program is available to students who are majoring in xxx at xxxx.

Application

Students may apply for admission to the MPH program as specified by admissions.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.2.

The student does not have to complete SPH graduate courses prior to applying to the MPH program.

GRE results are not required as part of the application.

The application to the BS/MPH program consists of:

- a completed xx Bachelor’s/MPH Application Approval Form, signed by the undergraduate faculty advisor or program director, submitted to the Admissions Office at the School of Public Health
- a SOPHAS application to Boston University School of Public Health
- an official Boston University undergraduate transcript, submitted at the end of the semester in which you apply
- three letters of reference, including at least two from faculty members at Boston University specifically addressing the student’s capacity to do graduate-level work

Matriculation

Accepted students will be conditionally admitted to the MPH program. Students in the program must maintain the GPA and other degree requirements for their Bachelor’s degree. Students must achieve a 3.0 grade point average overall in the required MPH core courses. Students may not earn below a C in any one core course.
Students who meet this standard will automatically matriculate into the MPH program. Students who do not meet the standard will be considered for full matriculation on a case-by-case basis.

Checklist for Dual Degree Students

- Meet with undergraduate faculty advisor or program director in the fall of sophomore year to discuss application to the 4+1 program.
- Complete required 4+1 Application Approval Form faculty and submit form to the Admissions Office at the School of Public Health.
- Submit completed application through SOPHAS on the timetable as specified by SPH admissions.
- Request an official BU transcript be sent to the SPH Admissions Office at end of semester in which application made.
- If accepted, “un-declare” public health minor (if applicable).
- If accepted, schedule a meeting with the SPH Assistant Director of Advising.

For more information about the Boston University School of Public Health, visit the SPH website; or contact Brendan Hoey, Assistant Director of Advising or Sophie Godley, Director of Undergraduate Programs at the School of Public Health.
The BU MPH

Essential curricular elements:
- An Integrated Core Curriculum;
- A rigorous and sequenced training in focused specialty areas through Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificates; and
- Professional Development and Practical Experience, which includes an enhanced Practicum, Culminating Experience, and Career Development Program.

The four required, integrated core courses are:
- Quantitative Methods for Public Health (4 credits)
- Individual, Community, and Population Health (4 credits)
- Health Systems, Law, and Policy (4 credits)
- Leadership and Management in Public Health (4 credits)
The initial offering of interdisciplinary graduate certificates (descriptions follow) will be:

Functional Areas—16 credits. One required; students may take two.

1. Community Assessment, Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation
2. Design and Conduct of Public Health Research
3. Environmental Hazard Assessment
4. Epidemiology and Biostatistics
5. Health Policy and Law
6. Health Communication and Promotion
7. Healthcare Management (CAHME accredited)—28 credits
8. Monitoring and Evaluation
9. Program Management

Context Area—12 credits. Students may take one, in addition to their certificate in a functional area.

1. Chronic and Non-Communicable Diseases
2. Global Health
3. Infectious Disease
4. Maternal and Child Health
5. Mental Health and Substance Use
6. Pharmaceuticals
7. Sex, Sexuality, and Gender
8. Social Justice, Human Rights, and Health Equity

The practicum is a 240-hour field-based experience that meets a students’ educational and career goals. Students complete one practicum during their MPH, regardless of the number of certificates they select.

The culminating experience is a discrete work product that aligns with the certificates. Students complete one CE during their MPH, regardless of the number of certificates they select.

The career development program prepares students with techniques and professional confidence to effectively market themselves during their job search process and throughout their public health careers. The program includes topics such as interviewing strategies, networking, and marketing and positioning oneself in the job market.
Functional Certificates

1. Community Assessment, Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation
   Assessing community needs and resources, program design and implementation, and evaluation are core functions of public health practice. This certificate equips students with the essential tools and knowledge base to conduct effective community-based health promotion activities with a diverse array of populations and health issues. Special emphasis is placed on acquiring skills for anti-discriminatory, culturally proficient public health practice and strategies for developing authentic partnerships that grow sustainable political and social power in marginalized communities where need is greatest.

2. Design and Conduct of Public Health Research
   Public Health is a dynamic field, with knowledge and practice driven by research. This certificate provides training in qualitative and quantitative methods, giving students an understanding of study design, research compliance, skills in analyzing public health data, and translating research results for policy and practice. Students can focus on methods relating to other certificates, including Global Health, Maternal and Child Health, and Environmental Hazard Assessment.

3. Environmental Hazard Assessment
   Environmental factors, including water supply, air, food, sanitation, and climate change, are central determinants of population health globally. This certificate provides students with state-of-the-practice environmental health science methods used to evaluate the public health effects of chemical, physical, and biological hazards. Students will obtain a globally recognized and marketable skill set and will be prepared for careers addressing environmental hazards.

4. Epidemiology and Biostatistics
   Epidemiology and biostatistics are the quantitative sciences of public health, investigating causes and prevention of disease and injury, and assessing patterns of health in populations around the globe. This certificate provides training in design, statistical programming, data analysis, and valid interpretation of experimental (e.g. clinical) trials and observational studies. Students will gain knowledge and skills in the methods required to conduct and communicate public health research.

5. Health Policy and Law
   Improving health depends on thoughtful policies and effective laws based on sound science. Major challenges include implementing the Affordable Care Act, designing and financing innovative health systems, forestalling climate change, addressing mental health and substance use, distributing scarce resources, reducing health disparities, and allocating the roles of the public and private sectors. This certificate equips students to develop, implement and evaluate policies and laws in the US or globally.

6. Health Communication and Promotion
   This certificate provides multi-disciplinary knowledge and practical skills for developing and implementing communications-based strategies to motivate healthy behaviors, change social norms, and promote public health programs and policies. Students will gain knowledge and skills, including qualitative research, intervention and campaign development, risk communication, media advocacy, and the use of social media, websites, print and broadcast media, and other communications channels to advance public health.
7. Healthcare Management (CAHME accredited) – 26 credits
   Never have the challenges in organizing healthcare delivery systems to improve patient care
   quality and achieve population-level access and equity while controlling costs been greater. Our
   CAHME-accredited practice-based program in healthcare management provides students with
   crucial analytical and leadership competencies to tackle these challenges. Students will analyze
   organizations, financing and delivery of healthcare, and the effects of healthcare policies.
   Students will learn and apply project management and quality improvement strategies and lead
   individuals and teams to improve care delivery.

8. Monitoring and Evaluation
   This certificate provides students with the skills to design and implement rigorous field-based
   projects and to work in organizations conducting monitoring activities in developing and
   developed countries. Students will design and implement monitoring plans and process
   evaluations, apply rigorous analytic methods to estimate the impacts and costs of public health
   programs and policies, and critically assess and interpret existing evidence to inform public
   health decision-making.

9. Program Management
   This certificate equips students to lead public health programs in a variety of settings, including
   low-resource environments. Students will be able to coordinate and prioritize resources,
   manage costs and risks, develop plans, motivate staff, and direct efforts to improve community
   health and program performance. Students will develop skills to think critically about public
   health problems, apply relevant theories, and practice program management and leadership
   through problem-based learning.
Contextual Certificates

1. Chronic and Non-Communicable Diseases
   Chronic diseases and unintentional and intentional injuries cause a large majority of the deaths in the US and a rapidly rising proportion of deaths in developing countries. This certificate will provide students with the ability to identify the causes of some of the most common non-communicable diseases, including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and obesity; address a broad range of challenges posed by chronic conditions and injury; and implement and evaluate medical services, prevention programs, and ongoing disease management to improve quality of life.

2. Global Health
   Future global health professionals must be equipped to confront complex health challenges in widely diverse settings. This certificate provides students with a nuanced understanding of the socio-cultural, economic, and political factors impacting global health systems, and practical skills to analyze those health systems and strengthen capacity for sustainable health programming, with an emphasis on low- and middle-resource countries.

3. Infectious Disease
   Infectious diseases are responsible for a significant global burden of disease that disproportionately affects vulnerable populations worldwide. This certificate provides students with the foundation to collect and analyze data to identify agent, host, and environmental (physical, social, behavioral, cultural, economic, political) factors contributing to the cause and spread of infectious diseases. Students will be prepared to design contextually appropriate interventions for infectious disease prevention, control, and elimination.

4. Maternal and Child Health
   Assuring that women, their partners, children, and adolescents are healthy and thriving is central to the public health mission throughout the world. This certificate expands knowledge and skills needed to understand the complex biologic, social, and systems-related determinants of key maternal and child health (MCH) challenges (such as infant and maternal mortality, reproductive justice, youth development), evaluate MCH research, and critically assess and implement programs, policies and advocacy strategies to achieve equity across MCH populations.

5. Mental Health and Substance Use
   This certificate provides foundational training in the conceptual frameworks, knowledge, and technical skills necessary to understand how mental illness and unhealthy substance use disorders develop, are manifested, and treated. Utilizing a multi-determinants, population-based public health perspective, students will develop expertise in assessing, preventing, and reducing mental illness and unhealthy substance use, and in promoting mental health and wellness.

6. Pharmaceuticals
   Nearly every public health program relies on pharmaceuticals to achieve its goals—from treating infectious diseases to managing preventive and chronic care. This certificate is one of the world’s few programs examining the intersection of public health and the pharmaceutical
sector. Students will gain skills in pharmaceutical development, delivery, and policy. Students will be able to effectively translate their knowledge and skills into rapidly growing public health, pharmaceutical, and medical technology markets.

7. Sex, Sexuality, and Gender
Inequality and discrimination related to gender and sexuality are major barriers to the attainment of health. Using behavioral and social science theory and methods as well as human rights and social justice frameworks, students will gain analytical, program, and policy skills to understand and address the behavioral, structural, and social determinants of gender inequality and their impacts on individual, community, and population health.

8. Social Justice, Human Rights, and Health Equity
Health is strongly affected by racism, sexism, poverty, violence, and discrimination. Consequently, public health strategies that promote human rights and social justice are needed to empower vulnerable and marginalized populations, including the elderly and immigrants, to improve their health and well-being. This certificate equips students to engage communities at the local, state, country, and global levels to address critical public health problems in a human rights framework.
Program Formats - the 48-credit BU MPH can be completed through several program formats.

16 Months/Accelerated

- Fall
  - Quantitative Methods for Public Health
  - Individual, Community and Population Health
  - Health Systems, Law, and Policy
  - Leadership and Management in Public Health

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Summer
  - Practicum

- Fall
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

2 Years/Full-Time

- Fall
  - Quantitative Methods for Public Health
  - Individual, Community and Population Health
  - Health Systems, Law, and Policy
  - Leadership and Management in Public Health

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Summer
  - Practicum

- Fall
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

Part-Time

- Fall
  - Quantitative Methods for Public Health
  - Health Systems, Law, and Policy
  - Leadership and Management in Public Health

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Summer
  - Practicum

- Fall
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Fall
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Fall
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Fall
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

- Spring
  - Functional Certificate 1
  - Functional Certificate 2
  - Functional Certificate 2, Context Certificate or Elective

Culminating Experience
Modular approach to curriculum

Standard MPH (48 credits) &
BU Dual Degrees (BA-BS/MPH, JD/MPH, MD/MPH, MSW/MPH, MS/MPH, MBA/MPH)

Graduate Certificate in Public Health (16 credits)
Open to non-degree students, BU students in other degree programs

BUSPH Graduate Certificates in key Functional & Context Areas
Open to non-degree students, BU students in other degree programs to promote inter-professional education and population health education

(Build on foundational knowledge in public health)
Bachelor of Arts/Master of Public Health

Contact

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Pre-Professional Advising
100 Bay State Road, Room 428
617-353-4866

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Sophie Godley, MPH, Director of Undergraduate Education
SPH website

Public health provides a community-based, systems-level approach to solving complex health problems. Students learn quantitative methods and analytical frameworks for tackling challenging issues such as health care access and environmental hazards.

FOR THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH WEBSITE.

The Bachelor of Arts/Master of Public Health program offered jointly by the College of Arts & Sciences (CAS) and the School of Public Health (SPH) is a blend of the undergraduate experience and graduate professional study leading to increased career opportunities in the field of public health. Students complete all degree requirements for the (128-credit) BA and all requirements for the (48-credit) MPH. Up to 16 credits of graduate-level School of Public Health coursework completed in the final two years of undergraduate study may be applied both as elective credit toward the BA and as credit toward fulfillment of requirements for the MPH. Careful planning and full-time enrollment can result in students’ receiving both the BA and MPH after a total of five years of study, rather than the usual minimum of five-and-a-half years. Students may complete the MPH degree on a part time basis if desired. The BA is awarded at the completion of all BA requirements; the MPH is awarded once students have completed all MPH program requirements and requirements for one of the eight MPH concentrations.

Public health is a diverse field that draws on expertise from many disciplines, including math, science, law, ethics, psychological and brain sciences, sociology, political science, and communications. Students applying to the BA/MPH program will be expected to demonstrate a commitment to public health as evidenced by their previous coursework, personal statement in the SOPHAS application, and past employment and extracurricular activities. Nevertheless, students in all CAS undergraduate concentrations are eligible to apply for the BA/MPH program, provided that they are not concurrently enrolled in another dual degree program. Students pursuing an undergraduate minor in Public Health must drop that minor if they are accepted and choose to enroll in the BA/MPH program. Students must apply for the program by April 1 of their sophomore year (for Fall admission) or by October 15 of their junior year (for Spring admission) and may apply prior to taking any courses at the School of Public Health. Applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.20, and successful applicants will generally have a GPA above 3.50.

Application to the dual degree program will consist of an application approval form signed by the Director of Prehealth Programs at the Pre-professional Advising Office, 100 Bay State Road, 4th
Floor; a completed SOPHAS application to the School of Public Health; an official Boston University undergraduate transcript; three letters of reference, including two from faculty members at Boston University specifically addressing the student's capacity to do graduate-level work; and SAT scores for Critical Reading, Math, Writing, Essay, and two subject tests (or corresponding ACT scores). GRE test results will not be required as part of the application.

Students accepted to the BA/MPH program will be required to meet certain standards and undergo further review prior to entering the SPH for their final year of study. For their undergraduate major in CAS, they must maintain the minimum GPA graduation requirement and fulfill all other requirements. Additionally, they must achieve a grade of B- or better in all SPH core courses in which they enroll as undergraduates and must attain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 in all SPH courses. Upon completion of the BA degree, the student's overall record will undergo a review by the SPH Assistant Dean for Education and the Director of Undergraduate Education, who will make a final decision regarding a full transition to the School of Public Health. This review may be referred to the SPH Admissions Committee.

By the time of graduation from CAS and as a condition of entry into SPH, students must have completed the following specific courses:

1. Biostatistics: SPH BS 704 (3 credits); CAS MA 115 and 116; or CAS MA 213 and 214; or CAS MA 684. Students who successfully completed SPH BS 701 or SPH BS 703 between Fall 2011 and Fall 2012 will have met this requirement. Students who take SPH BS 701, 703, or 704 to complete the biostatistics requirement must earn at least a B-. Students who take both CAS MA 115 and CAS MA 116; both CAS MA 213 and CAS MA 214; or CAS MA 684 to meet the requirement must earn at least a B in these courses. However, credit received for CAS statistics courses does not count toward the minimum total of 48 credits of SPH coursework required for graduation with the MPH; these courses count only as waiver of the biostatistics core course requirement.

2. Epidemiology: SPH EP 713 (3 credits) or SAR HS 300. Students who take SPH EP 713 to complete the epidemiology requirement must earn at least a B- in SPH EP 713. Students who take HS 300 to complete the epidemiology requirement must earn at least a B in SAR HS 300. However, credit received for SAR HS 300 does not count toward the minimum total of 48 credits of SPH coursework required for graduation with the MPH; this course counts only as waiver of the epidemiology core course requirement.

3. Either SPH LW 740 or the MPH Health Law, Bioethics & Human Rights core course requirement (SPH LW 719 or SPH LW 751). Students who successfully completed SPH LW 707 between Fall 2011 and Fall 2012 will have met the MPH core course requirement. Health Law, Bioethics & Human Rights concentrations must take SPH LW 751 to meet the MPH core course requirement. Students who take LW 740 as an undergraduate to meet this requirement must also satisfy the MPH Health Law, Bioethics & Human Rights core course requirement with LW 719 or LW 751 as appropriate after they complete the bachelor's degree and transition to SPH.

Students are required to meet with the Director of Undergraduate Education and/or with a staff member in the Registrar's Office at the School of Public Health shortly after being accepted into the dual degree program in order to plan their public health courses. Proactive planning is essential for timely completion of all MPH requirements. Students are also expected to review this tentative schedule of courses with their academic advisor at CAS. Students who have previously declared an undergraduate minor in Public Health will formally "un-declare" it at CAS Academic Advising, 100 Bay State Road, 4th floor, since courses taken toward the minor cannot also be counted toward the MPH degree.

**Undergraduate Courses That Fulfill MPH Core Course Requirements**

Students may complete the following undergraduate courses to waive particular MPH core course requirements. Students must note that courses used to waive MPH requirements DO NOT count...
toward the minimum 48-graduate-credit requirement for the MPH degree. Students will need to take additional coursework that will provide them with greater depth or breadth to meet the minimum 48-credit requirement.

1. Students who attain a grade of B or higher in both CAS MA 115 AND CAS MA 116; CAS MA 213 AND CAS MA 214; or CAS MA 684 will have fulfilled the MPH Biostatistics requirement.
2. Students who attain a grade of B or higher in SAR HP 353 will have fulfilled the MPH Health Policy and Management core course requirement.
3. Students who attain a grade of B or higher in SAR HS 300 will have fulfilled the MPH Epidemiology core course requirement.

Additional information about the BA/MPH program may be obtained by making an appointment with the Director of Prehealth Programs in the College of Arts & Sciences’ Pre-Professional Advising office. Students must meet with the Director of Prehealth Programs well in advance of application to discuss their interest in the BA/MPH program and obtain the Director’s signature on an application approval form.

**Related Bulletin Pages**

- College of Arts & Sciences Departments
- College of Arts & Sciences Courses
- Abbreviations and Symbols

**Beyond the Bulletin**

- BU Admissions
- BU Financial Assistance
- College of Arts & Sciences
Proposed New Degree or Credit-Bearing Certificate: Academic Component

NOTE: The Library Impact Statement is required for the review of a new degree program. Proposers should contact the Library as early in the proposal development process as possible.

Title of Degree or Credit-Bearing Certificate (e.g., Bachelor of Arts in History): Graduate Certificate in Public Health

1. Please provide the name, title, email address, and phone number of the primary contact person for this academic program:

   Lisa Sullivan, Ph.D.
   Associate Dean for Education
   lsull@bu.edu
   617-638-5047

2. Please briefly describe the proposed new degree:

   The Graduate Certificate in Public Health is comprised of four required courses totaling 16 credits of coursework. The component courses are the core courses for the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at the School of Public Health (SPH) designed to provide students with key foundational knowledge in public health and enhance students’ professional preparation by highlighting interdisciplinary connections through examples, case studies, and problem-based learning. They are:

   - PH717, Quantitative Methods for Public Health
   - PH718, Leadership and Management in Public Health
   - PH719, Health Systems, Law, and Policy
   - PH720, Individual, Community and Population Health

   The Graduate Certificate in Public Health will be open to non-degree students, advanced undergraduate students from Boston University, and graduate students at Boston University. The program, if approved, will enroll its first cohort in spring 2017.

   The graduate certificate may be pursued on a full-time basis and completed in one semester or on a part-time basis and completed over a maximum of two years. Regardless of the full-time or part-time path, the courses provide students the foundation for public health knowledge and skills. Title IV funding approval will be sought and gainful employment requirements met in cooperation with the Boston University Financial Assistance and the Boston University Medical Campus Office of Student Financial Services.
It is expected that some students will integrate the knowledge and skills learned through the graduate certificate into their other educational preparation. Other students may enroll to enhance their career mobility at their current job or as the first step in applying to the MPH degree at Boston University.

Students who complete the graduate certificate with a plan of applying later to the MPH program must matriculate into the MPH program within three years of the start of their first class in the graduate certificate program.

3. Please provide a rationale for the proposed new degree:

The new graduate certificate program provides graduate public health education and professional development options that are not currently available at Boston University. Certificate programs are relatively common among the top schools of public health and are a logical market for BUSPH to delve into with these cohorts as potential enrollees:

- Graduate students at other Boston University graduate schools who are not in a school with an established dual degree program with the School of Public Health and who wish to pursue public health to enhance their career preparation.
- Graduate students at Boston University who are in partner schools with dual degrees such as the JD/MPH who cannot pursue a dual degree and wish to have foundational public health knowledge and skills.
- Non-degree students, especially mid-career professionals, who cannot commit to an entire graduate degree program but could benefit in their career growth from foundational knowledge in public health.
- Local clinicians (nurses, physicians, physician assistants) who could benefit from foundational knowledge in public health.
- Talented prospective graduate students who want to explore public health at the graduate level before applying to a degree program.
- Selected seniors from Boston University undergraduate colleges who are approved by their home school to pursue graduate level courses. Such students would typically have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, have demonstrated interest in public health, and have a plan to complete the graduate certificate before completing their bachelor’s degree.

4. Please describe how the proposed new degree advances the Strategic Plans of the department, school/college, and University:

The BUSPH mission is: To improve the health of local, national and international populations, particularly the disadvantaged, underserved and vulnerable, through excellence and innovation in education, research and service.

Serving this mission, and explicit in the strategic plan of the School, is providing high quality training in the foundational principles of public health to meet the growing need for public health professionals in an expanding range of sectors. BUSPH is also interested in growing its masters-level educational programs. Graduate certificates accomplish both goals. The proposed Graduate Certificate in Public
Health offers students at Boston University and members of the community the opportunity to complete high quality, foundational graduate courses in public health on a full-time or part-time basis.

A pillar of the University’s 2007 Strategic Plan is enhancing the professional schools and offering more opportunities for interdisciplinary educational offerings. Graduate certificates help advance the University’s strategic plan in the realm of undergraduate and graduate education.

5. Please list the program requirements for the proposed new degree (denote new courses in bold print):

To earn the graduate certificate in public health, students must successfully complete four courses with an overall grade point average of 3.0. Students may not earn below a C in any course. These courses have already been approved as part of the revised Master of Public Health degree launching in fall 2016:

- PH717 A1 Quantitative Methods for Public Health
- PH718 A1 Leadership and Management in Public Health
- PH719 A1 Health Systems, Law, and Policy
- PH720 A1 Individual, Community and Population Health

MPH degree students accepted in fall 2016 will enroll in the courses above. Graduate certificate students would enroll in these courses beginning in spring 2017, if approved.

6. Please list program learning outcomes:

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health, or the integrated core curriculum of the MPH, provides a strong foundation in the values, history, methods, and functions of public health, as well as the fundamental knowledge and skills required of 21st-century public health professionals. Through the four integrated core courses, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of key public health concepts that are designed to cut across traditional disciplines. While other schools and programs of public health (see table in #9) have similar certificates by name, BUSPH courses are the only courses that truly integrate the core public health disciplines and focus on solving complex public health problems. The pedagogy reflects the needs of public health practitioners and meets the requirements of SPH’s accreditor, the Council on Education for Public Health.

Upon successful completion of the graduate certificate in public health, students will be able to:
- Identify the determinants of health and disease;
- Demonstrate the ability to access and use data to address public health problems;
- Demonstrate the ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a team;
- Use systematic approaches to develop, implement, and evaluate public health policies, programs, or services;
- Apply ethical and legal principles to public health policy; and
- Incorporate perspectives of diverse groups and communities.
7. For master’s or professional doctorate degrees, please describe what this program prepares students for after they have graduated:

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health offers focused academic training in public health and requires less time and coursework than the MPH, making it appealing to those interested in learning foundational skills and content in public health. Some students completing the Graduate Certificate in Public Health may decide to apply to the Master of Public Health degree; other students will find that the graduate certificate couples well with their existing master’s program or professional experience. A public health credential for a law, medical, business, medical sciences, or social work student offers a body of knowledge to enrich the student’s practice in their chosen field. Students in other disciplines would also benefit by having a foundation in the methods, functions, skills, and knowledge of public health as practice in the 21st century. Those in nutrition may better understand the barriers their clients face in accessing health care, healthy foods, and healthy living environments. Engineers may work with public health professionals to design systems to bring clean water, technology infrastructure, or medicines to developing areas. Educators may develop a public health lens on which to evaluate educational programs across the life course and better understand how health disparities affect marginalized populations.

8. Please describe how the proposed new degree relates to existing programs at the University:

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health offers students across Boston University the opportunity to enhance their skills and knowledge for expanded career or educational choices. The proposed graduate certificate is a new and distinct educational opportunity that complements and extends current educational offerings at Boston University. The proposed graduate certificate is open to advanced undergraduates and graduate students who are in good standing in their program at Boston University. Undergraduate students’ applications will be approved by their home schools. The approval of the graduate certificate will be a recruiting advantage for Boston University undergraduate programs.
9. Please place the proposed program in the context of comparable programs at peer institutions

According to the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), 32 of the 57 accredited schools of public health offer certificates as part of their educational programs. The table below depicts top-ranked schools offering certificates focusing on the core content of graduate public health education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Mode of Delivery</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Per-Credit Cost</th>
<th>Tuition Cost for Certificate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University North Carolina Core Course Certificate</td>
<td>Bachelor’s prepared students. Estimate 10% international.</td>
<td>5 courses, 15 credits</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Two Years</td>
<td>$475 in-state; $1300 out-of-state</td>
<td>In-state: $7,125 Out-of-State: $19,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>New and current HSPH students and non-degree students</td>
<td>Maximum enrollment of 10 credits in the summer.</td>
<td>In person</td>
<td>Two summer semesters</td>
<td>$1,220</td>
<td>$12,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johns Hopkins Training Certificate in Public Health (MPH core content)</td>
<td>Bachelor’s prepared students with recent courses in college biology and statistics. Open to JHU students, not SPH students.</td>
<td>Six courses for credit plus two zero-credit preparation courses, 22 credits total</td>
<td>Online or In-person or both</td>
<td>Must be completed in three years</td>
<td>$1,012</td>
<td>$22,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Washington University Core Course Certificate</td>
<td>Bachelor’s prepared students and public health professionals who wish to take national certification exam</td>
<td>6 courses, 15 credits</td>
<td>Online or in-person</td>
<td>Two years</td>
<td>$826</td>
<td>$12,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed BU Graduate Certificate in Public Health</td>
<td>Bachelor’s prepared students, select undergraduates, current graduate</td>
<td>4 courses, 16 credits</td>
<td>In-person</td>
<td>Up to two years</td>
<td>$1482</td>
<td>$23,712</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


10. Please list the program’s faculty:

Graduate certificate students will be enrolled in the same classes as MPH degree students. The faculty teaching the core course are experienced professors at SPH. Core course directors have worked over two years to envision and prepare syllabi for the four courses, and then to integrate the content among the four courses. The graduate certificate and core course faculty include the following SPH professors per department and course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching Faculty</th>
<th>Quantitative Methods for Public Health</th>
<th>Individual, Community and Population Health</th>
<th>Health Systems, Law, and Policy</th>
<th>Leadership and Management in Public Health</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BS</td>
<td>Lisa Sullivan</td>
<td>Carol Dolan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jacqueline Milton</td>
<td>Sophie Godley</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timothy Heeren</td>
<td>Jacey Greece</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Patricia Elliott</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPI</td>
<td>Jessica Leibler</td>
<td>Megan Healey</td>
<td>Junenette Peters</td>
<td>Wendy Heiger-Bernays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Claus Henn</td>
<td>Wayne LaMorte</td>
<td>Patricia Janulewicz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robin Dodson</td>
<td>Kimberly Shea</td>
<td>Madeleine Scammell</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patricia Janulewicz</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junenette Peters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Webster</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>GH</td>
<td>Andrew Stokes</td>
<td>Malcolm Bryant</td>
<td></td>
<td>James Wolff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Rockers</td>
<td>Frank Feeley</td>
<td></td>
<td>Taryn Vian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jacob Bor</td>
<td>Susan Foster</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Laing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>James Wolff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Taryn Vian</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Veronika Wirtz</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLBHR</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HPM</td>
<td></td>
<td>David Rosenbloom</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vicky Parker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. Please provide an administrative plan for the proposed new degree:

Students will apply to the Graduate Certificate in Public Health via SOPHAS Express, and the applications will be reviewed by the SPH Admissions staff. Students who meet the admissions requirements will be accepted.

Interested students may apply via SOPHAS to the MPH degree program during or after completing the Graduate Certificate in Public Health and must meet prevailing applications requirements at that time. The graduate certificate courses will be available to transfer up to three years from the start of the first class in the graduate certificate program.

12. Please provide an advising plan for the proposed new degree:

The staff in the SPH Office of Professional and Academic Services will advise the students completing the Graduate Certificate in Public Health pertaining to course choices and scheduling. The course structure includes cohorts, required labs, and access to teaching assistants, which provides additional support for participating students.

13. For a proposed graduate program, please provide the admissions standards involved:

Admissions Requirements:

All students apply through SOPHAS Express, and provide
  • Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate schools attended
  • A personal statement describing the student’s desire to complete the graduate certificate
  • Two letters of recommendation (at least one from a faculty member)

Successful graduate candidates will have in addition:
  • A bachelor’s degree from an accredited university

Successful BU undergraduate candidates will, in addition:
  • Hold senior standing at the projected start of the graduate certificate program
  • Provide a letter of approval from their academic advisor
  • Have a GPA of 3.5 or higher
  • Express interest in public health
  • Describe a plan to complete the graduate certificate before completing their bachelor’s degree

Standardized Test Requirements
  • The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is not required for admission to the Graduate Certificate in Public Health. Students who subsequently apply for the MPH degree will need to meet stated requirements for the degree at the time of application.
14. Please document any implications that the formation of the proposed new degree has on professional accreditation or licensure at the program or school/college level:

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) requires notice of a substantive change when curriculum updates are made. SPH will consult with CEPH officials and file a notification as appropriate.

15. For a proposed undergraduate program, please provide sample pathways through the new degree or certificate:

Successful undergraduate candidates must submit a plan to complete the graduate certificate and the bachelor’s degree within their desired timeline. Undergraduate federal funding awards may be used for the tuition costs so long as the student does not complete their bachelor’s degree before completing the graduate certificate. Students who have space in their schedule may, for example, complete two courses in fall and two courses in spring of the senior year.

16. If the new program includes a new course or courses, please indicate who will teach the course and how the rest of that faculty member’s course load will be affected (courses(s) redistributed to other faculty, taught less frequently, no longer taught, etc.). Please be specific about affected courses. This information should be reflected in the budget form that accompanies the proposal, e.g. the cost for a new faculty member to teach the new course or a redistributed course [NOTE: new courses will need Course Inventory Forms submitted to the Office of the Registrar]:

The courses that comprise the Graduate Certificate in Public Health are part of the revised MPH at the School of Public Health launching in fall 2016. Graduate certificate participants will enroll in the classes scheduled for the MPH degree program. It is expected that the first graduate certificate students would enroll beginning in spring 2017. No new class sections are planned to specifically accommodate students interested in the graduate certificate at this time, and it is expected that the students would be assigned to planned cohorts depending upon their full-time or part-time status. However, as interest grows, additional sections will be added as needed. The instructors for the additional sections will join the core course teaching teams who will be working together across sections to ensure consistent quality and attainment of competencies and learning outcomes.

17. Please list other resources needed including new staff, IT, technology enhanced classrooms, office space, and other facilities. This information should be reflected in the budget:

Potential additional staffing in:
- Graduate Admissions to process applications and admissions
- Professional and Academic Services to provide advising to graduate certificate students
- Career services to track job placements for gainful employment
- Additional faculty to support additional sections of the core courses as needed

(The requirements for Title IV funding for non-degree students: http://publichealth.gwu.edu/downloads/certs/ph_generalist.html)
18. What charges (tuition, fees, etc.) are to be applied to this program? How will the charges be structured?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition/Fee Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full time tuition (all courses in one semester)</td>
<td>At prevailing rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part time tuition</td>
<td>At prevailing per credit rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees for current student</td>
<td>At prevailing rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees for non-degree students</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical insurance for full time, non-degree student</td>
<td>At prevailing rate for one semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. Please describe the proposed enrollment or the enrollment required to cover the start-up costs of the proposed new degree:

Given that students will be enrolled in established classes, there is not an enrollment minimum. The maximum will be determined by the overall student body expected for a given semester.

Startup costs $55,250
- Print materials $9,000 to develop and print a program brochure
- Advertising on MBTA $15,000
- 0.5 FTE staff time $31,250

Enrolling two full time students completing four courses each and two part time students would cover the start-up costs. Additional enrollment would not require additional start-up costs. Should enrollments increase to the point where additional sections of courses are needed, the tuition generated would more than cover faculty costs for teaching and staff costs for processing, advising and supporting students. Based on faculty salary and fringe estimates and assuming 15% coverage for each 4-credit course, the cost of teaching 4 additional sections of the core courses is approximately $115,000 per semester. Additional sections would only be mounted if enrollments exceeded current capacity which can accommodate up to 15 additional full-time students. Fifteen additional full-time students would pay over $350,000 in tuition costs more than covering faculty and staff time required to teach, advise and support these students.

20. Please provide the bulletin copy (exactly as it will appear) for the proposed new degree including all text connected to the program (requirements, description, program goals/outcomes) [NOTE: this bulletin copy is in a final form and cannot be changed]:

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health at Boston University is a 16-credit, four-course graduate certificate open to non-degree students with an earned bachelor’s degree and students at Boston University who meet admissions requirements. The graduate certificate’s unique, integrated curriculum provides participants with a strong foundation in the values, history, methods, and functions of public health, as well as the fundamental knowledge and skills required of 21st-century public health professionals. Through the graduate certificate, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of key public health concepts that are designed to cut across traditional disciplines. Students may complete the graduate certificate in one semester or on a part-time basis, and will join cohorts of existing degree
students in classes, labs, and co-curricular events. Classes are held at the Boston University Medical Campus in the South End of Boston.

21. Please submit a complete budget for the new program or credit-bearing certificate, using the appropriate budget template, even if no additional resources are needed.