How To Apply

To apply for admission:

1. Complete the online application (see http://www.albany.edu/graduate/online_app.php). At the prompt to select a degree program, click “Health Disparities, C.G.S.” on the pull down list of degrees and certificates. Complete the rest of the application and submit it, with the required fee ($75.00) as directed.

2. Submit a statement of goals, which must include a discussion of two issues related to health disparities in the contemporary US.

3. Provide 3 Letters of Recommendation (preferably faculty or supervisors in a health-related field).

Application Deadlines:

The deadlines for admission are June 1st for the Fall Semester and November 1st for the Spring Semester.

For more information contact:

Dr. Robert Miller  
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518-442-5374

Dr. Janine Jurkowski  
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Dr. Micki Friedlander  
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The Health Disparities Certificate Program
Background

Minority health disparities are the disproportionate occurrences of disease, death and disability among members of racial, ethnic, and sexual minorities compared with non-minorities.

Groups affected by disparities include racial and ethnic minorities, residents of rural areas, women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

The certificate program responds to the need for leaders in the fields of public health, social work, medicine, and the social sciences to be knowledgeable about health disparities and the strategies needed to reduce them.

The program aims to improve students’ cultural competence and leadership skills and provide knowledge about the causes of health disparities, the strategies for eliminating them and related issues.

Housed in the School of Public Health in partnership with the Schools of Education and Social Welfare, the certificate program is a collaboration among the members of the Center for the Elimination of Minority Health Disparities.

Certificate Requirements

Students must be formally admitted to the Certificate program and take four 3-credit graduate courses, for a total of 12 credits.

Select one of the following courses on health disparities:
- HHPM 620 Health Disparities and Vulnerable Populations
- RSSW 781 Poverty, Behavioral Health and Health Policy

Select one of the following courses on multicultural practice:
- RSSW 746 Cultural Diversity in Social Work Practice*
- ECPY 627 Advanced Counseling Theory and Practice (multicultural)**
- ECPY 750 Doctoral Seminar in Multicultural Counseling**

Select one of the following courses on community partnerships:
- RSSW 792 Community Building*
- HHPM 535 Community Based Public Health

Select one of the following courses on public health leadership:
- HSPH 569 Public Health Leadership
- RSSW 793 Leadership in Human Service Organizations

Select one of the following courses on health disparities:
- HHPM 620 Health Disparities and Vulnerable Populations
- RSSW 781 Poverty, Behavioral Health and Health Policy

Course descriptions can be found in the University’s online Graduate Bulletin.
*These courses have prerequisites, which will be waived for or students completing the Health Disparities Certificate, as endorsed by the respective Deans of the Schools of Public Health and Social Welfare.
** Contact the Division of Counseling Psychology for information about pre-requisites.

Who Should Apply

You need not be currently enrolled at the University at Albany to apply. We encourage applications from:

- individuals working in health services, policy promotion, or provision as well as
- students currently enrolled in a graduate program at UAlbany or another accredited college or university in a relevant field, including social work, public health, or any of the social sciences. You should be in good academic standing (GPA of 3.0 or higher).

If you hold a BA, BS or RN degree from an accredited institution you should have 6 credits or the equivalent in the social sciences.