



Medical Doctorate and Masters in Public Health (MD/MPH) Dual Degree

What is Public Health?

Public Health is a coordinated, committed effort that:

- Tackles current issues such as Bioterrorism, West Nile Virus, Violence Prevention, Health Disparities, and Obesity
- Prevents epidemics and the spread of disease
- Protects against environmental hazards
- Prevents injuries
- Promotes and encourages healthy behaviors
- Responds to disasters and assists community recovery
- Works for quality, accessible, and affordable health care services

Why an MD/MPH dual degree?

This dual degree is targeted at medical students who are interested in acquiring knowledge in the public health field. The marriage between medicine and public health skills will enable them to be better physicians and leaders in the fields of medicine and public health. The program builds on the relationship between Albany Medical College and the UAlbany School of Public Health to prepare physicians who have skills to address both clinical and public health problems.

What is the curriculum for the dual degree?

Individuals interested in pursuing an MD/MPH can complete the degree in five years (compared to medical school's usual four years). The first two years of study are primarily devoted to medical education. During the summers, students can take public health courses, and they do Part I of medical board exams early in the 2nd summer. MPH coursework is primarily completed in the summers and in the third year of study. The MPH internships are completed in the fourth and fifth year, along with the clinical phase of medical school.

MPH Areas of Study

Students enrolled in the MPH program select one of the six areas of concentration that include:

- Behavioral Science and Community Health
- Biomedical Sciences
- Biostatistics
- Epidemiology
- Environmental Health
- Health Administration
- Preventive Medicine
- Public Health Practice

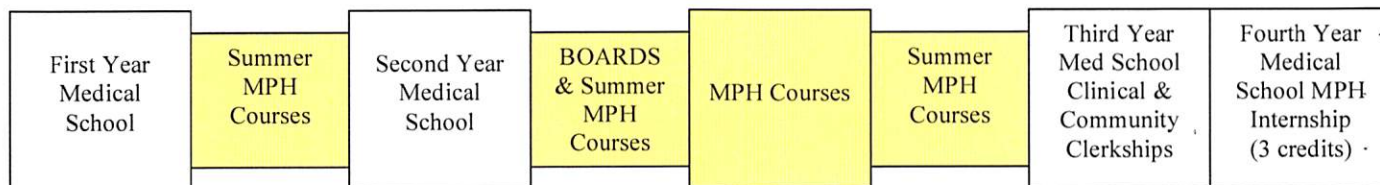
Students develop an area of concentration through taking several courses in that specific area in addition to the six required core courses.

How do I apply?

To be considered for admission to the MD/MPH program, applicants must be admitted first to medical school at Albany Medical College. AMC uses the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), which can be found on the Association of American Medical College's website at www.aamc.org/students/amcas/start.htm. Applicants apply separately to the School of Public Health for admission into the MPH program, usually during the 1st or 2nd year of medical school. Application information can be found on the School of Public Health website at <http://www.albany.edu/sph>. Students should indicate on the applications their intention to pursue the dual degree.

For additional information contact the
School of Public Health
(518) 402-0361
or visit our website at
www.albany.edu/sph

Diagram of typical sequence (may vary)



MPH Program of Study for MD/MPH students

A total of 51 credit hours is required to complete the MPH program, this includes 42 course credits and 9 internship credits. Out of 6 core courses that are required for the MPH degree, MD/MPH students can usually substitute medical school courses for both BMS505 Biological Basis of Public Health and HPM500 Healthcare Organization, Delivery, and Financing. Including those 6 credits, a total of 9 course credits can be transferred in toward the MPH degree. There are two core seminars in the MPH program: the First-Year MPH Seminar and the MPH Capstone Seminar. Additional MPH coursework depends on students' specific concentration within the MPH. It is recommended that students choose the Preventive Medicine Residency (PMR) track as it provides most flexibility, but other tracks are available as well. Nine credits of internship are required, six of which may be met by 3 months of medical school clerkships in community medicine and /or preventive medicine.

Core Curriculum for MD/MPH (21 credits)

BMS 505 Biological Basis of Public Health (3 credits) – *generally transferred in based on AMC coursework*

EPI 501 Principles and Methods of Epidemiology I (3 credits)

EPI 551 Basic principles of Statistical Inferences or EPI 552 Principles of Statistical Inferences I (3 credits)

EHS 590 Introduction to Environmental Health (3 credits)

HPM 500 Health Care Organization, Delivery and Financing (3 credits) – *generally transferred in based on AMC coursework*

HPM 525 Social and Behavioral Aspects of Public Health (3 credits)

SPH 680 First Year MPH Seminar (2) – two semesters required

SPH 685 Capstone (1) – one semester required after at least 3 credits of internship completed. The students will be doing on-line version of the Capstone seminar along with the preventive medicine residents.

Preventive Medicine Track Requirements & Elective Courses (21 credits)

HPM 503 Principles of Public Health for Preventive Medicine Residents (3 credits)

This weekly seminar for Preventive Medicine Residents, Dental Public Health Residents, and MD/MPH students introduces students to the basic principles of public health and their application to the development of activities that benefit the health status of populations. The skills of epidemiology, biostatistics, health care planning and policy development, health care administration, and community organization are applied to the assessment of public health needs and the development of prevention and control initiatives.

Quantitative/Analytic Requirement (3 credits).

Recommended options:

EPI 502	Principles and Methods of Epidemiology II	HPM 520	Fundamentals of Research Design
EPI 553	Principles of Statistical Inference II	HPM 570	International Health Economics
HPM 550	Financial Management	HPM 647	Program Evaluation
HPM 511	Economic Analysis	EHS 665	Risk Assessment

Elective Courses (9 credits). Recommended options:

BMS 505	Biological Basis of Public Health	HPM 535	Community Based Public Health
HPM 501	Policy Analysis	HPM 627	Program Development in Health Promotion
HPM 521	Preventing Death, Disease and Disability	SPH 569	Public Health Leadership
HPM 535	Community Based Public Health	SPH 589	Emergency Preparedness: The Public Health Perspective

Topical epidemiology courses, e.g. cancer, AIDS, infectious disease, or reproductive epi. Additional quantitative/analytic courses from list above.

Internships (9 credits)

Medical school community-medicine or preventive medicine clerkships (3 months total) count as six MPH internship credits, that need to be formally waived (waiver application submitted). In addition, students complete at least three more credits of internship in a public health setting.