Course Requirements

The Undergraduate Degree

All public health fields of study require competence in communication (both verbal and written); therefore students should take advantage of undergraduate opportunities to hone these skills.

Students of public health come from a variety of educational backgrounds, but there is coursework that can better prepare you for the field of study you choose. For example, coursework in biology and mathematics is highly recommended for students who plan to concentrate in Epidemiology or Biostatistics. For Global Health or Health Education, courses in sociology, psychology, education, and anthropology are beneficial. Health Care Administration students find that a business background is a plus. Coursework in biology or chemistry is valuable for the study of Environmental Health and Nutrition.

Programs & Admissions Prerequisites

Applicants to the Loma Linda University School of Public Health must have completed a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a GPA of 3.0 or better and must demonstrate satisfactory performance in the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Acceptance is based on a combination of factors, including undergraduate coursework, letter of recommendation, GPA, and the GRE.

In addition, admissions prerequisites for the specific program must be met as described below.

- **Global Health (MPH)**
  No specific course prerequisites

- **Health Care Administration (MBA)**
  Microeconomics- One course
  Accounting- One course

- **Health Education (MPH)**
  Behavioral Science- Two courses, include General Psychology

- **Health Policy and Leadership (MPH)**
  No specific course prerequisites

- **Lifestyle Management (MPH)**
  Human Anatomy- One course
  Human Physiology- One course

- **Nutrition (MPH, MS)**
  General Chemistry with lab- One year
  Organic Chemistry with lab- At least 5 quarter hours
  Physiology with lab- One course
  Microbiology with lab- One course
  Human Nutrition- One course

- **Population Medicine (MPH)**
  Human Anatomy and/or Physiology- One course
  Behavioral Science- One course
  A health care related degree:
  - Bachelor’s or master’s degree with two years of postgraduate, direct patient-care experience (e.g., nursing, social work, dental hygiene, physical therapy, occupational therapy, psychology).
  OR
  - Accepted into or completed clinical practice-related doctoral degree program (e.g., M.D., D.O., D.D.S., D.N.P., D.P.T., Pharm.D.). Must have completed at least two years in a clinical program.

- **Biostatistics (MPH)**
  Calculus- One course

- **Environmental and Occupational Health (MPH)**
  Biological Science with lab- One year
  Calculus or College Algebra- One course
  General Chemistry with lab- One year
  Organic Chemistry with lab- Two quarters
  General Physics with lab- One year
  General Microbiology with lab- One course (corequisite)

- **Epidemiology: Medical (MPH)**
  Calculus (preferred) or College Algebra- One course
  A health care related degree:
  - Bachelor’s or master’s degree with two years of postgraduate, direct patient-care experience (e.g., nursing, social work, dental hygiene, physical therapy, occupational therapy, psychology).
  OR
  - Accepted into or completed clinical practice-related doctoral degree program (e.g., M.D., D.O., D.D.S., D.N.P., D.P.T., Pharm.D.). Must have completed at least two years in a clinical program.

- **Epidemiology: Research (MPH)**
  Calculus (preferred) or College Algebra- One course
  Biological sciences- Four courses
Earnings
Graduates of schools of public health have a number of different job opportunities available to them as they complete their degree. The mean salaries, as follows, are actual salaries earned in the following disciplines (adjusted for inflation using the national CPI - Bureau of Labor Statistics) within one year of graduation as reported by the most recent nationwide survey of graduates conducted by the Associated Schools of Public Health (ASPH).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Salary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biostatistics</td>
<td>$80,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environ. &amp; Occupational Health</td>
<td>$67,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidemiology</td>
<td>$69,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Administration (MBA)</td>
<td>$67,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Education</td>
<td>$43,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Health</td>
<td>$41,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>$57,500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For More Information
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Website: http://www.llu.edu/public-health/

American Public Health Association
www.apha.org

Associated Schools of Public Health Association
www.asph.org

What is Public Health?
www.whatispublichealth.org

US Health Prevention Strategies
www.healthcare.gov/prevention

Occupational Information

What can I do with this profession?
Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private, communities and individuals. The field of public health offers personal fulfillment; working towards the improvement of people’s health and well-being is a rewarding occupation.

The goal of public health is to improve lives through the prevention and treatment of disease. Public health makes our world safer and, as a result, protects the health of every person.

General Areas of Service
A career in public health offers a wide variety of options to suit individual areas of interest. For example, health administration and community health sciences are careers which involve being with people. Health education is a teaching field, whereas health policy includes a political component and covers a range of areas. Epidemiology and biostatistics involve math and modeling, and environmental health includes a range of science skills.

While there are dozens of specialties in public health, most career opportunities are found in the following fields:
- Biostatistics
- Environmental & Occupational Health
- Epidemiology - Medical
- Epidemiology - Research
- Global Health
- Health Care Administration (M.B.A.)
- Health Education
- Health Policy & Leadership
- Lifestyle Management
- Nutrition (M.S.)

Professional Training
Public Health programs vary greatly in requirements and in the degree earned by completing all requirements. Pacific Union College recommends the public health programs offered by Loma Linda University. Various graduate degrees are available, including the M.P.H. (Master of Public Health), M.B.A. (Master of Business Administration), M.S. (Master of Science), and Dr.P.H. (Doctor of Public Health).

Job Outlook
According to the Department of Labor and Statistics, employment of community health workers is projected to grow 13% from 2014 to 2024, faster than the average for all occupations. Growth will be driven by efforts to improve health outcomes and to reduce health care cost.