



Fay W. Boozman

# College of Public Health

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

PhD in Health Promotion & Prevention Research

# PhD in Health Promotion and Prevention Research

## Program Description

Integrated within the multidisciplinary environment of an academic health sciences center, the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Health Promotion and Prevention Research (HPPR) program is uniquely positioned to advance the understanding of biological, behavioral and cultural processes associated with the etiology and prevention of significant public health challenges that are prevalent in Arkansas and among populations with similar risk factors throughout the United States and around the world.

Students work closely with faculty mentors who have experience addressing multiple aspects of public health (e.g. chronic and infectious disease, mental

health, coping skills, dietary habits, sexual behavior, use of tobacco and other substances). A strong emphasis on applied and community-based research methods fosters collaboration with health practitioners in the development of programmatic research that is truly responsive to the health needs of under-resourced communities.

The curriculum requires a minimum of 66 semester credit hours and can be completed within a three to five year period of full-time study. All students must complete their full program of study within seven years after passing a doctoral candidacy exam. The degree is awarded in recognition of scholarly achievement evidenced by a period of successful advanced study, the satisfactory completion of prescribed examinations, and the defense of a dissertation addressing a significant issue relevant to social and behavioral sciences in public health. Graduates of the program are prepared to develop an extramurally funded program of independent research.



## Curriculum Components

Behavioral Science (9 hours)

Community and Public Health Science  
(12 hours)

Research Methods (15 hours)

Applied Theory and Methods (30 hours)

Grant writing

Mentored Research

Dissertation Research

## To Apply

- Complete the on-line SOPHAS application at [www.sophas.org](http://www.sophas.org).
- Complete the on-line UAMS COPH supplemental application at <https://oaa.uams.edu>.
- Documents needed with application:
  - Official transcripts of all academic work;
  - Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores dated within 5 years of application;
  - Curriculum Vitae or Resume;
  - Statement of Experience, Purpose, and Objectives (500-700 words);

- Professional writing sample;
- Three (3) letters of recommendation

- International applicants, visit this website for further requirements: <http://publichealth.uams.edu/students/prospective-students/international-applicants/>.
- For more information, go to <http://publichealth.uams.edu/students/prospective-students/how-to-apply/>.
- All required materials must be received by SOPHAS by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline dates. For more information about deadlines, go to <http://publichealth.uams.edu/students/prospective-students/application-deadlines/>.

## Potential careers in public health:

- Community Health Worker
- Health Communication Specialist
- Public Health Researcher
- Public Health Educator
- Public Health Practitioner
- Global Health Worker
- Health Promotion Program Coordinator
- Behavioral Health Program Coordinator
- Public Health Professor
- Humanitarian Assistance

“According to the CDC, the field of public health is responsible for adding 25 years to the lifespan of people in the United States in the 20th century alone!”

“Complete a degree in public health if you want to learn how to do research and develop interventions that promote health and prevent health issues.”

“If you want to increase behavior change and impact the overall healthcare system, pursue an advanced degree in public health.”

“Public health is about creating social justice and health for all.”

## Links:

<http://publichealth.uams.edu/>

[www.sophas.org](http://www.sophas.org)

<http://studentfinancialservices.uams.edu/>

<http://studentlife.uams.edu/>

<http://www.uams.edu/campusop/depts/po/>

<https://secure.uams.edu/cophstudent/>

<https://www.apha.org/>

<http://www.aspph.org/>

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uamsoph/>

## Mission

The mission of the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health is to improve the health and promote the well-being of individuals, families, and communities in Arkansas through education, research, and service.

**UAMS**<sup>®</sup>

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