Doctor of Public Health in Public Health Leadership (DrPH)

Program Description

The focus of the DrPH program is on developing public health leaders who can integrate public health science into public health practice, apply models and theories in public health to chronic and emerging issues in practice and demonstrate leadership in working with public health teams.

The DrPH is the culminating project of the DrPH program, and must address an empirical question that is relevant to a public health problem or challenge and entails clear implications for leadership at organizational, community and/or policy levels.

The written product may take the form of a traditional research dissertation, a cohesive series of at least three manuscripts that are ready for submission to national level public health journals, a technical report accompanied by a grant proposal that is appropriate for submission to a major funder, a case study report that encompasses all phases of scholarship from design through analysis and interpretation, or another similar scholarly document.
To Apply

• **Complete the online SOPHAS application at** www.sophas.org.

• **Complete the online 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;
  - Personal statement or letter of interest (including a description of work experience in a public health-related field). Statement should also address prior experience in, or demonstrated capacity for, public health leadership roles (500-700 words);
  - Curriculum Vitae or Resume;
  - Four (4) letters of recommendation from persons who may also be contacted in regard to scholastic ability and professional experience;
  - Complete an on-campus interview (for selected applicants).

• **International applicants, visit this website** for further requirements: http://publichealth.uams.edu/wpcontent/uploads/sites/3/2012/06/Doctoral-application-requirementsinternational-03.pdf.

Program Requirements

The curriculum for the DrPH includes coursework in public health sciences and public health practice as well as in leadership skill development. The DrPH program requires completion of a minimum of 61 semester credits to earn the degree. The program is offered on a part-time or full-time basis. Students must complete a minimum of three credit hours of practical (field) experience and six or more credit hours of an approved dissertation project. The overall curriculum includes:

• **Public Health Research and Teaching Courses**
  17 semester credit hours

• **Public Health Program Planning & Evaluation Courses**
  17 semester credit hours

• **Management Courses**
  12 semester credit hours

• **Elective Courses**
  Six semester credit hours

• **Doctoral Practicum/Field Experience**
  Three semester credit hours

• **Dissertation Project**
  Six semester credit hours

Potential careers in public health:

• Health Policy Director
• Deputy Science Officer
• Public Health Practitioner
• Epidemiologist
• Public Health Professor
• Health Communication Specialist
• Public Health Officer
The DrPH program offers a balance of practice-based and evidenced-based learning. I have been able to learn the skills I need to be an effective public health leader.

This program has provided me the opportunity to develop effective communication and leadership skills that will last a lifetime.

Being a DrPH student taught me the importance of community involvement when planning and executing public health programs.

Kevin Ryan, J.D., M.A.,
Associate Dean for Professional Programs,
Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management
UAMS Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health
4301 W. Markham St., #820
Little Rock, AR 72205
Phone: (501) 526-6673
Fax: (501) 526-6650
Email: RyanKevinW@uams.edu

Links:
http://publichealth.uams.edu/
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/uamscoph/

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.