

# Master of Public Health (MPH)

The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree requires a minimum of 42\* semester credit hours and is designed to accommodate the student who wishes to obtain training in one of the following specialties:

- Biostatistics
- Epidemiology
- Environmental and Occupational Health
- Health Behavior and Health Education
- Health Policy and Management
- Rural and Global Public Health

Each student who declares a specialty area must select an academic advisor from among the faculty of the department related to that particular area of public health.

Two capstone courses are required as part of the MPH curriculum. The first is a

preceptorship, or field experience, requiring a minimum of 200 clock hours of work in a public health-related activity, under the joint supervision of a qualified specialist in public health practice and a COPH faculty member. The second is a culminating experience project, requiring the student to synthesize and integrate knowledge and apply theory and principles learned in an area of public health practice. This will result in preparation of a manuscript for publication, a health policy proposal, a research proposal for submission, or equivalent, if approved by the Culminating Experience Project Advisory Committee (CEPAC) composed of COPH faculty members.

## Course Curriculum

The MPH program requires a minimum of 42\* semester credit hours that include:

- Core Courses: 18 semester credit hours
- Concentration/Specialty: 15-24 semester credit hours
- Elective coursework required by some concentrations/specialties
- Preceptorship in Public Health: three semester credit hours
- MPH Integrated Learning Experience Project: two semester credit hours
- MPH Integrated Learning Experience (or passing the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam)): one semester credit hour

The six core courses listed below include an overview of public health as well as an introductory course in each of the five core public health disciplines. These courses comprise the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate curriculum and also serve as the required 18 semester credit hour core for all MPH students.

- HPMT 5003 Introduction to Public Health
- BIOS 5013 Biostatistics I
- ENVH 5102 Environmental and Occupational Health
- HPMT 5103 The Health Care System
- HBHE 5104 Introduction to Health Behavior and Health Education
- EPID 5112 Epidemiology I

## Successful Completion of Courses

Courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or better to be considered successfully completed. Only successfully completed courses can be counted toward degree requirements. When a listed requirement for enrollment in a course includes completion of a prerequisite course, the prerequisite course must also have been successfully completed.

## Time Frame for Completion of Degree

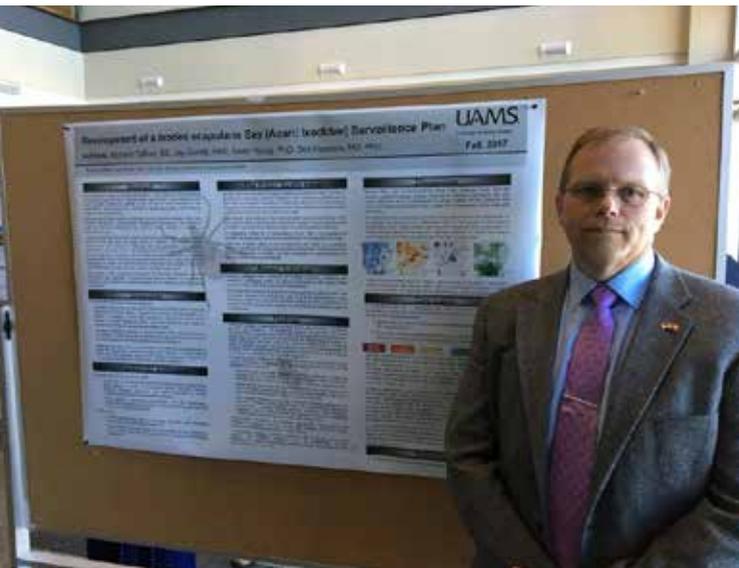
All requirements for a master’s degree must be satisfied within six consecutive calendar years from the first registration (whether degree-seeking or non-degree seeking) with

the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health. Students must begin classes within one calendar year after acceptance to the COPH.

## How to Apply

To apply, applicants must submit the following items.

- Online application at [www.sophas.org](http://www.sophas.org) and a COPH supplemental application
- Official transcripts must be sent to SOPHAS for every institution attended
- U.S. baccalaureate degree or equivalent
- GRE test scores no older than five years
- Three letters of recommendation
- Statement of intent
- Current resume
- COPH supplemental application fee



“ I had little experience in the public health workforce when I entered the program, so I found the courses to build on each other and provide a good base for working in the field. I continue to learn, but in addition to developing skills, I gained a better understanding of how to critically think about solving public health problems, understanding study designs, and how to critique the literature. Also, one of the best experiences I had involved participating in study groups. Because of this, I developed lasting friendships and professional working relationships that are maintained today.”

“ Earning my MPH from UAMS was a very rewarding experience for me, overall. It helped me build capacity and improved my job performance, allowing me to be competitive with my colleagues.”

“ The program provided me with the science behind a lot of the work we do. It also gave me new insights into ways to approach both old and new public health problems.”

**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.

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Fay W. Boozman  
**College of Public Health**  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Master of Public Health