

# PUBLIC HEALTH, BSPH/MPH (5-YEAR)

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## Program Description

### Mission

The mission of the La Salle University Public Health Five-Year Program, which is rooted in the larger University mission, is to educate professionals from diverse disciplines and backgrounds in core public health knowledge areas so that they are equipped to help prevent disease and promote physical and mental health and social well-being through public health practice, leadership, research, and service. After completing requirements, students enrolled in the five-year program will earn a Bachelor of Science in Public Health. Students will earn a Master of Public Health degree after completing their fifth year of study.

To apply to the Public Health Five-Year Program, students must meet the following criteria:

- Current BSPH student who has completed the first two years of the curriculum and is on track to successfully complete the third year of the BSPH curriculum.
- Minimum overall GPA of 3.25

In addition, students will submit the following application items to the Public Health Department:

- Current resume or curriculum vitae
- A Personal Statement (600 words or less) addressing your reasons for wanting to enroll in the MPH program and your career plans upon completion of the program.
- Evidence of participation in public health programming and activities

### Program Values

The Public Health Five-Year program's core values stem from the broader University's values, including teaching excellence, the importance of community, service to the poor, and education that fosters spiritual development. Specifically, the program's core values include the following:

- Excellence in teaching that fosters idealism, creativity, and innovation.
- Service to vulnerable and underserved populations that helps promote health and prevent disease.
- Research and scholarship that engages communities as partners in improving the environmental and social conditions necessary to achieve physical and mental health and social well-being.
- Ethical decision-making that considers social justice and health equity.
- Respect for cultural and religious values at the individual, family, community, and societal levels.
- Equality for individuals and communities regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual preference, or ability.
- Commitment to life-long professional and personal development.

### Accreditation

La Salle University is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (<https://ceph.org/about/org-info/who-we-accredit/accredited/>).

## Requirements to Progress to Graduation

All students in the Public Health Five-Year Program must meet specific academic standards for continued progression in the major. Students must maintain a major GPA of 2.5 in order to graduate with a BSPH degree and an overall GPA of 3.00 at the end of each semester in order to progress into the graduate (MPH) program. An overall GPA of 3.00 is required to continue in the Master's Program. Students not meeting the required overall and major GPA will earn a Bachelor of Science in Public Health if all requirements are met, but will not progress on to the Master's Program.

## Why Take This Major?

The Public Health Five Year Program combines the strengths of the BSPH in Public Health and Master of Public Health Programs and allows eligible students to complete both their undergraduate and graduate degrees in five years. The first year of the MPH program will be completed in the senior year of undergraduate study. Students will then complete the remaining coursework required for the MPH in an additional year. BSPH students will apply to the Five-Year Program either at the end of their sophomore year or in the first semester of their junior year. During the hybrid senior year in the undergraduate program, Five Year students maintain undergraduate status.