

Health Policy & Management Major

Bachelor of Science in Public Health

www.sph.unc.edu/hpm

The mission of the major in Health Policy and Management is to improve the health of individuals and communities and reduce health inequities in the U.S. and abroad by educating future health leaders, managers, policymakers, practitioners, and researchers. Our students are interested in:

- **Access to care:** What can be done to improve access to health care for underserved populations?
- **Health care quality and costs:** How can we improve quality of care while also managing rising health care expenditures?
- **Health disparities:** What can we do to assure that everyone has the opportunity to attain their highest level of health?
- **Health reform:** In what ways will health reform change the future of U.S. health care?
- **Public health:** What can we do to prevent disease and injury and improve the health of populations?
- **Global health:** How do other countries deliver and finance health care and what can the U.S. learn from their successes and failures?

What are the strengths of our undergraduate major in Health Policy and Management?

Our supportive learning environment: The small size of our major (40-45 students per cohort), coupled with faculty and staff commitment to student success, helps create a very supportive learning environment.

The applied nature of our curriculum: Students in our major participate in a variety of real-world projects that allow them to apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to problems in the field of public health (Example: Planning and conducting a program evaluation of an initiative aimed at improving access to care for North Carolina residents).

The quality of our students and the success of our graduates: Graduates obtain positions in a variety of health-related organizations, such as hospitals, healthcare systems, physician practices, consulting firms, government agencies, research and policy institutes, and public health/community health organizations. Graduates also have been successful in their pursuit of advanced degrees in a broad range of fields, such as public health, public policy, law, medicine, dentistry, and business administration.

Admission to the program is competitive. Strong applicants have excellent academic performance with particular attention to the prerequisites, strong written and oral communication skills, demonstrated interest (through voluntary or work experiences) in the field of health policy and management or public health broadly, strong references, professionalism and maturity, and ability to work well on teams.

What are the admission requirements and prerequisite courses for this major?

- Visit [Application Deadlines & How to Apply](#) for more information
- Online application, 2 letters of recommendation (at least one from someone able to evaluate your academic qualifications), personal statement, resume, interview
- 3.0 Cumulative GPA in order to be eligible to apply
- Approximately 60 credit hours completed (we are typically a junior entry major)
- Recommended: Complete all General College requirements in your first 2 years at UNC
- Course credits via transfer, AP exams, and UNC courses are acceptable for prerequisites
- Many of your prerequisite courses should be completed at the point of application submission
- Applicants should earn a grade of C (not C-) or better in all prerequisite courses

- **Prerequisite courses**

- BIOL 101 & BIOL 101L: Principles of Biology & Introductory Biology Laboratory
- ECON 101: Introduction to Economics
- STOR 155: Introduction to Data Models and Inference
- One Accounting course, choose from: BUSI 102, 106, 107, 108 **or** 407
- One Math/Statistics course, choose from: MATH 130, 152, 231, 232, 233, STOR 112 **or** 113

Major Requirements (once admitted/grade of C or better)

- SPHG 351: Foundations of Public Health
- SPHG 352: Public Health Systems and Solutions
- EPID 600: Principles of Epidemiology for Public Health
- BIOS 600: Principles of Statistical Inference **or** ECON 400: Introduction to Statistics & Econometrics
- HPM 310: Introduction to Law and Ethics in Health Management
- HPM 320: Introduction to Strategic Planning and Marketing
- HPM 330: Introduction to Health Organization Leadership, Management, and Behavior
- HPM 340: Foundations of Health Care Financial Management
- HPM 341: Information Systems, Technology, and Tools
- HPM 350 & 352: Introduction to Health Services Systems I & II
- HPM 351: Politics, Public Health, and Health Policy
- HPM 393: Field Training in Health Policy and Management (a 10-week minimum full-time internship during the summer between junior and senior year)
- HPM 697: Senior Capstone

Post-Graduation Destinations

Approximately 60-75% of seniors enter the workforce upon graduation while 25-40% go directly to graduate/professional school. About 30% pursue a graduate degree within 3 years of graduation.

Sample of Graduate and Professional School Destinations

UNC-Chapel Hill Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Law, Physical Therapy, Business, and Pharmacy; University of Michigan, Columbia University, Emory University, East Carolina University Schools of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Michigan Medical School, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine

Career Opportunities for Health Policy and Management Graduates

Hospital and healthcare leadership and management, both large systems like UNC Healthcare, Duke, Carolinas, and Novant, and smaller practices like Providence Anesthesiology Associates; The practice of **medicine, dentistry, law**, and other professions in many types of organizations; **Consulting firms** such as EY, Deloitte, Navigant, Huron, McKinsey, Triage, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Aon Hewitt; **Health insurance firms**, such as Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NC, Aetna; **Professional, advocacy, and policy associations**, such as the Children's Hospital Association, American Public Health Association, National Health Law Program; **Research organizations**, such as Research Triangle Institute, Yale Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation, Center for Studying Health Systems Change, UNC-Chapel Hill Sheps Center for Health Services Research, UNC School of Medicine, Duke University, National Academy for State Health Policy; **Government agencies**, such the Centers for Disease Control, NC Division of Public Health (Raleigh), Cabarrus Health Alliance, Maricopa County Department of Public Health; **Global health organizations**, such as Peace Corps, IPAS, Centers for Disease Control, and the US Agency for International Development; and **Healthcare start-ups**, such as TowerView Health.