



# Health Policy & Management Major

Bachelor of Science in Public Health  
[www.sph.unc.edu/hpm](http://www.sph.unc.edu/hpm)

- **Health disparities:** What can we do to address the causes of health disparities both in the U.S. and internationally?
- **Health reform:** In what ways will health reform change the future of U.S. health care?
- **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 promotion and disease prevention:** What can we do to address preventable illnesses caused by tobacco use, obesity, and physical inactivity?
- **Global Health:** How do other countries deliver 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 and health systems, physician practices, consulting firms, government agencies, research and policy institutes, and public health and community health organizations. Graduates also have been successful in their pursuit of advanced degrees in a broad range of fields, such as public health (all dimensions/subfields), public policy, law, medicine, dentistry, and business administration. 90%+ of our students are placed within 3 months of graduation.

**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?

- 3.0 Cumulative GPA in order to be eligible to apply
- Applicants should earn a grade of C (not C-) or better in all prerequisite courses
- Online application, 2 letters of recommendation, personal statement, resume, and interview (for those who make it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the admissions process)
- Application Deadline: Typically due in January of your 2nd year
- Approximately 60 credit hours (we are 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

- 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, or 108
- One additional 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. (30% pursue a graduate degree within 3 years).

### 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.