MASTER'S DEGREES

The Master of Public Health (M.P.H.), Master of Health-Care Administration (M.H.A.), and Master of Science (M.S.) degree programs are designed for those with appropriate backgrounds who are seeking to acquire graduate-level competencies in public health, health administration, and nutrition.

- Epidemiology — M.P.H. (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/epidemiology-mph)
- Health-Care Administration — M.H.A. (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/health-care-administration-mha)
- Health Education — M.P.H. (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/health-education-mph) (traditional, online), Comparison (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/health-education-mph/comparison)
- Nutrition with coordinated program in dietetics — M.P.H. (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/nutrition/mph-with-dietetics)
- Population Medicine — M.P.H. (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/public-health/population-medicine-mph) (traditional, online)

Admissions

The admissions requirements described below are in addition to the University admissions requirements (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/about-university/admission-policies-information/admissionrequirements) and program requirements. The minimum eligibility requirements for admission to a master's degree program include the following:

- a baccalaureate degree or equivalent from a regionally accredited institution, with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or above.
- satisfactory performance in the Graduate Record Examination (G.R.E.) or equivalent; scores must have been attained within the last five years. Other scores are acceptable. Please contact the admissions office for details.
- Applicant may be interviewed by program directors and/or faculty.
- Religious affiliation is not a requirement; but students are expected to adhere to on-campus requirements of modest dress, abstinence from alcohol and smoking, and attendance at weekly chapel.

Applicants must satisfy the program-specific admission requirements, including but not limited to pre-requisite courses, license requirements and years of experience. Admissions decisions are based on a review of applicant’s transcripts, written statement, letters of recommendation, G.R.E. or equivalent scores, and interview (if necessary). Satisfying minimum requirements does not guarantee admission.

M.H.A.

Master of Health-Care Administration

The program leading to the Master of Health-Care Administration (M.H.A.) degree is designed to develop the management and administrative skills of those involved in the public and private health-care industries.

The Master of Health-Care Administration (M.H.A.) degree provides a broad understanding of health-care management and hands-on experience in applying learned principles. The M.H.A. degree is designed for those whose professional objective is a career in health-care management. The residency period provides experience in a health-care organization. Graduates are prepared for careers at upper administrative levels in health-care organizations—including hospitals, public agencies, health-care networks, group practices, long-term care, and managed care.

M.P.H.

Master of Public Health

The program leading to the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree is designed to provide broad preparation in the fundamentals of public health, while at the same time offering opportunity for some specialization in areas of interest.

The degree is offered with major concentrations in the areas of epidemiology, global health, health education, health policy and leadership, lifestyle management, nutrition, and population medicine. Second major concentrations can be added in addition to the primary major.

Public health core requirements

All graduate degree students in the School of Public Health are expected to develop an understanding of the areas of knowledge basic to public health. This is accomplished by completing the following integrated, interdisciplinary public health core courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PCOR 501</td>
<td>Public Health for Community Resilience</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCOR 502</td>
<td>Public Health for a Healthy Lifestyle</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCOR 503</td>
<td>Public Health and Health Systems</td>
<td>5</td>
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Students are expected to identify a specific area of concentration or major. They may opt to add additional course work leading to a second major or area of emphasis.

Culminating experience

The Culminating Experience gives a common platform for students to demonstrate proficiency in the professional competencies required of public health practitioners. This non-course degree requirement is designed to enhance the student’s professional communication skills by developing a professional presence and demonstrating proficiency in and service within the Public Health profession. This process involves collaboration with and mentoring by the program faculty advisor. The items selected for inclusion into the Culminating Experience will be developed into a professional portfolio with the intent to prepare the student for a job interview.

The student’s advisor will be responsible to verify all content and evaluate using a rubric, with an acceptable score received on the portfolio prior to graduation.

- Develop a Professional Presence with a minimum of three (3) items, including but not limited to the following:
• Professional social media site. Examples include LinkedIn and Research Gate, depending on the student’s career path. This will be reviewed by the program advisor for completeness.

• Student membership to a public health-related professional organization (e.g., APHA, ACHE).

• Contributing to the public health knowledge through the SPH’s blog, website or other online media.

• Demonstrate Proficiency and Service to the Profession with a minimum of three (3) items, including but not limited to the following:
  • Obtain the CPH credential. This exam can be taken upon completion of the MPH core (PCOR 501,502, 503 series).
  • Complete community service. A minimum number of 100 hours required for this to be counted. Opportunities are available, including CAPS, SACHS clinic, OPHP, Healthy People conference, SA activities and others. Proof of hours will be required.
  • Submit an abstract to a professional conference. This can be an individual or group effort. Faculty advisor must assist and mentor the student to be successful in completing this project.
  • Deliver an oral presentation. Examples include the field practicum presentation, a course project, a research project, or a work-based project. This presentation, open to all SPH students and faculty, must be 10-30 minutes in length, depending on the venue, and be evaluated by program faculty via standardized SPH rubric. The faculty advisor must mentor the student by reviewing their presentation, including a dry-run one week prior to the presentation date, to ensure high quality content and delivery.

• Prepare a manuscript. The substance must cover a public health topic, such as the oral presentation, an abstract, a poster, a research project, a course project, or the field practicum project. The student will work with their faculty advisor to decide which journal to prepare the manuscript for submission, follow required formatting for submission for publication. Submission and acceptance of the manuscript are not a requirement for completion.

• Other items, such as submission of a grant, group projects, policy brief, research project, leadership role, awards and certificates of honors, personal statement of career goals or mission statement, etc. The goal is to capture other items that demonstrate competence or expertise in a particular area of Public Health.

Field practicum
In accordance with Loma Linda University’s mission—“To make man whole”—the School of Public Health provides students with rich experiences, as well as training opportunities that include all dimensions of health: physical, mental, spiritual, intellectual, and environmental. Part of this training occurs during the practice experience—which may be referred to as field practicum, applied research, or internship, depending on the department. It can be performed during one or more quarters and generally consists of 400 hours, but must be at least 100 hours. The practice experience at the School of Public Health is an opportunity for students to apply the knowledge they learn in the classroom, enhance their understanding of public health, and contribute to the health of the community in which they are engaged. The experience allows students to demonstrate their ability to synthesize and integrate prior learning into real-life, public health settings.

Peace Corps
Peace Corps fellows/USA (community program)
Peace Corps fellows receive scholarships and full credit for Peace Corps service and are eligible for work-study and medical benefits. The University provides fellows (returned Peace Corps volunteers) with 6 units of tuition waiver. All master’s-level students must complete a field practicum. Returned volunteers can use their service abroad to satisfy this requirement—a savings of time and money. Fellows will help coordinate community-based learning activities in the neighborhoods of San Bernardino, California. (Internship requires access to an automobile.) Specific responsibilities include assisting faculty in organizing projects and in helping to mentor students.

Residencies for physicians
Residency training in the specialties of general preventive medicine and public health and in occupational medicine, as well as a combined residency in family and preventive medicine, are offered by the School of Public Health for qualified physicians. Both the residency training and the combined residency programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and prepare residents for certification by the American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM). Both specialties require the successful completion of an accredited M.P.H. degree.

Those interested in applying to these training programs should contact the residency office by calling 909/ 558-4918 or by visiting the following web address: <http://www.prevmedresidencies.com>

Preventive medicine residency
The three-year program consists of an internship year followed by two years of integrated academic and practicum experiences. One internship position is offered through the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) each year.

The program combines the academic and practicum experience over two years. During this time, residents will complete their M.P.H. degree and rotate at the various training sites. Practice sites include the Center for Health Promotion, the Jerry L. Pettis VA Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, and the Inland Empire Health Plan.

Under the guidance of the residency and faculty members at the School of Public Health, each resident conducts a senior project on a topic of choice during the senior year.

Family and preventive medicine residency
The Family and Preventive Medicine Residency Program combines curricular elements of a three-year family medicine residency and a three-year preventive medicine residency into an efficient training program of four years. During the first year, residents complete a family medicine internship but also set aside time to begin course work towards their Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree. The remaining years (2-4) include a mix of family and preventive medicine rotations and M.P.H. degree course work, as well as elective time. The residency has strengths in global health and lifestyle medicine. Exposures to these areas occur in rotations, electives, M.P.H. degree classes, and senior research projects.

Occupational medicine residency
Physicians who have completed an internship (PGY-1) year are eligible to apply for the two-year occupational medicine program, which involves an integrated academic and practicum phase. Residents select an M.P.H. degree major in environmental health and occupational health. If an accepted applicant has already completed an accredited degree with
a major emphasis in an area other than environmental health, s/he will be required to take the following courses during the training: ENVH 589 Environmental Risk Assessment, ENVH 581 Principles of Industrial Hygiene, and ENVH 587 Environmental Toxicology, and EPDM 588 Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology.

The program emphasizes the clinical and applied aspects of occupational and environmental medicine. It focuses on the health of individuals and groups in relationship to work, hazards in the workplace, and environmental issues. The University takes special interest in the assessment of individual health hazards and the identification and promotion of practices that help to reduce risk and prevent or postpone disease and injury.

Under the guidance of the residency and faculty members of the School of Public Health, each resident completes a research project on a topic of choice during the senior year.

**Addiction medicine fellowship**

The fellowship program provides addiction medicine experience and opportunities, and utilizes a wide range of evaluation and treatment settings. Fellows will be involved with treatment and education groups, lectures, and teaching of internal medicine residents, family practice residents, preventive medicine residents, and medical students.

Applicants must have successfully completed an accredited residency training program in any medical specialty and have a valid medical license in the state of California.

Fellows rotate at the following sites: Loma Linda University Behavioral Medicine Center, Betty Ford Center, and Kaiser-Fontana Chemical Dependency Recovery Program.

The start date for a one-year fellowship is July 1 of each year, though this is negotiable.

**M.S.**

**Master of Science**

The Master of Science (M.S.) degree in nutrition is offered to meet the specific needs of those who desire advanced training in nutritional sciences. The Master of Science degree in nutrition has the following objectives:

1. To provide a basic science approach to understanding advanced areas in human nutrition.
2. To enhance research skills by developing or applying advanced laboratory techniques in human nutrition research.

More information about these areas of specialization can be found in the Biostatistics and Nutrition Program sections of this CATALOG.