



Discover Public Health:

Public health protects and improves the health of individuals, families, communities, and populations, locally and globally

Are there required majors for the field of Public Health?



Public health professionals study and work in a range of fields. There is no one required undergraduate major for public health, and people in the field have backgrounds in:

- **Social sciences:** anthropology, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, ethnic studies, women’s studies, etc.
- **Biological and physical sciences:** biology, chemistry, earth science, engineering, physics, mathematics, etc.
- **Quantitative sciences:** finance, statistics, computer sciences
- **Many other fields, including** nursing, the allied health professions, and more!

Examples of the many fields/roles in public health:

- Biostatisticians
- Community planners
- Epidemiologists
- Emergency responders
- Environmental health workers
- Healthcare consultants
- Nutritionists
- Occupational health and safety professionals
- Public health nurses
- Public health physicians
- Public policymakers
- Scientists and researchers
- Social workers
- Toxicologists

Summer Program in Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Length: 5 weeks

Application Deadline:

February 8, 2019

Program includes: Stipend, airfare, housing, & GRE prep course

Department: Epidemiology

Overview: This program integrates mathematics and quantitative methods to provide undergraduates with an understanding of the skills and processes necessary to pursue a career in Epidemiology or Biostatistics. Successful candidates typically have strong quantitative skills.

<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/epidemiology/diversity/summer-program-in-epidemiology/>





What is the Summer Program in Epidemiology?

The summer program curriculum consists of five parts: **coursework(not for credit)** in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, as well as an R bootcamp; **formal lectures**, which are provided by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health faculty members with different foci in Public Health; a **group research project** where students will investigate a question of public health provided by a Faculty/Postdoc Mentor; **Kaplan GRE prep courses**, where students will take diagnostics tests as well as work in small Kaplan led groups to improve test taking and scores; and **Profession Development** sessions led by Faculty/Staff on Admissions, Career Translation, Resume/Interview skills, etc. Students who participate in the program are able to meet with the Department of Epidemiology students and post-doctoral fellows at different networking events. In addition, students have the opportunity to meet with faculty and administrators individually, and explore the historic city of Boston, Massachusetts. **Participants receive summer stipends, and funded housing and travel from NIH grants, NSF grants, the Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics (CCDD)/MIDAS, and from continued support by the Department of Epidemiology and their dedication to diversity and inclusion in STEM fields.**

Who is Eligible To Apply?

In order to take advantage of this opportunity, applicants **must** meet all of the criteria below.

- Applicants must be enrolled in an undergraduate program or recently graduated from an undergraduate program and not matriculating in a graduate program during the 2019-2020 academic year
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or above
- Applicants must be from a quantitative science background or have taken several quantitative classes beyond intro level courses
- Applicants must demonstrate an interest in public health
- Applicants must identify with at least one underrepresented group in biomedical research, which is defined by meeting the [NIH's criteria](#) below:
 - Racial and ethnic groups such as Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinx,
 - American Indians or Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders;
 - People from disadvantaged and low socioeconomic status;
 - Students with disabilities
 - Annual family income below established [low-income thresholds](#), based on family size(this requires additional supportive documentation);
 - A rural, inner-city, or other environment that has inhibited a person from getting the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for a research career

Exclusions: Individuals interested in pursuing a Doctor of Medicine (MD) or have already been admitted to a graduate program are ineligible to apply. The program is for students interested in pursuing the following degree types: Master of Science (MS) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). If you are unsure about degree types, please visit the [HSPH Admissions' website](#).



How do I apply?

Application and Letter of Recommendation are **due February 8, 2019 at 11:59pm**
Admission Results by end of March

The Application will *open November* 2018 and the **deadline for applications and Letter of Recommendation will be February 8, 2019.**

All applications must be submitted electronically through this link: [Apply Now!](#)

An application to this program requires:

- Resume or CV
- Academic Transcript(s)
- Two letters of recommendation from professors at your current institution who can speak to your capabilities within their courses (please do **not** submit recommendations from high school teachers, or individuals who do not know you in an academic capacity).
- A personal statement describing your academic and professional interests, your reason for applying to the Summer Program in Epidemiology, the insight you hope to gain from the program, and the ways the program will influence your academic trajectory. The typed statement should be between 1 and 2 pages

Note: the two letters of recommendation must be from professors who can speak to your capabilities within their courses (please **do not** request recommendations from high school teachers, or individuals who do not know you in an academic capacity).

Instructions for recommenders:

Please tell your recommender to email harvardepisummer@hsph.harvard.edu from a **professional email address** with their recommendation attached as a PDF. It is your responsibility to contact your recommender with these instructions and ensure that they provide us with their recommendation letter by the deadline of February 8, 2019. We will send a confirmation email to the recommender when it is received.

For more information:

<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/epidemiology/diversity/summer-program-in-epidemiology/>

Questions? Please contact:

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