

admission to master of public health in physical activity and public health

You can discover a world of possibilities for an exciting and challenging career at the Arnold School. Our programs can provide you with the specialized knowledge and skills you need to address current and emerging public health issues. Our faculty prepare students to be scholars, research specialists, teachers and experts in a vast array of public health professions. An advanced degree from the Arnold School will open doors to professional advancement, competitive salaries, and a meaningful career. You can become one of our passionate and committed graduates helping people across the nation and around the world.

The Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) and is the only School of Public Health in South Carolina. Located in Columbia, SC, the school offers reasonable tuition, day and evening classes and one of the most beautiful, historic campuses in America.



The Master of Public Health in Physical Activity and Public Health is the first degree of its kind in the United States and is designed for health professionals who have a career interest in physical activity. The program provides students with unique opportunities to:

- study issues and concepts germane to physical activity and public health;
- acquire appropriate background knowledge and experience in an epidemiological approach to public health problems as related to physical activity;
- and develop skills integral to the design, implementation, and evaluation of public health programs that are intended to promote increased physical activity in populations.

Program objectives

Students in this program:

- develop research-based knowledge of the relationships between physical activity and health;
- integrate physical activity into core functions of public health;
- use accepted public health methods to evaluate the impact of physical activity on communities;
- identify the benefits and risks of physical activity participation at community levels;
- develop skills for creating physical activity interventions in diverse community settings;
- understand how social and behavioral theories are used in programs designed to promote physical activity in community settings;
- work with public health educators and other professionals to promote physical activity in diverse community settings;
- apply public health surveillance methods to physical activity settings.

Curriculum/Program of Study

- Public Health Core—15 hours
- Physical Activity Core—18 hours (includes 6 hours of public health practice)
- Program Emphasis—12 hours
- Total Credit Hours—45

Program Emphases

Programmatic Emphasis: prepares the individual for employment as a physical activity specialist in community health promotion and intervention settings.

Surveillance Emphasis: prepares the individual for employment as a physical activity research and measurement specialist in public health and private agencies.

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General Information

- The MPH in Physical Activity and Public Health is administered through the Department of Exercise Science, Arnold School of Public Health.
- Financial aid is available on a competitive basis, including graduate research and teaching assistantships and veterans' benefits.
- Students admitted to the program are assigned an advisor to assist in developing an emphasis area.
- Final authority for all decisions remains with The Graduate School and is based on the Graduate Studies Bulletin and published University policy.

Application/Admission Requirements

- open to students with baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degrees from an accredited institution
- acceptance into the USC Graduate School
- satisfactory GRE scores
- an official transcript from each school/college previously attended
- three letters of recommendation
- a detailed statement of career goals and areas of interest
- demonstration of a broad educational background that indicates public health interests and experiences in physical activity
- international students: satisfactory scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (570 paper/230 computer) or IELTS Academic Course Type 2 Exam (6.5) and non-US institution transcripts verified by World Education Services (WES) or equivalent evaluation service.

For more information:

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USC in Focus

For more than 200 years, USC has distinguished itself as a center of learning with a tradition of leadership and service in higher education. USC has a diverse and talented student population, a dedicated and successful faculty, a world-renowned library, outstanding research programs, and a campus that has been named one of the most beautiful in America.

The University offers more than 350 degree programs. Many programs are nationally and internationally ranked. If you want to learn more about the University of South Carolina, visit the Web site at www.sc.edu.

Information about the city of Columbia can be found at www.columbiasc.net or www.columbiacvb.com.



Additional Information about the Arnold School

If you have questions or need additional information on how you can receive a rewarding degree from the Arnold School of Public Health, visit our Web site at www.sph.sc.edu or e-mail the Office of Student Services at: sphstsrvc@mailbox.sc.edu.
Phone: 803-777-5031

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