# PUBLIC HEALTH
What can I do with this major?

## AREAS

### BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE AND HEALTH EDUCATION
- Programming
- Disease Prevention
- Community Outreach
- Grant Writing
- Fundraising
- Volunteer Coordination
- Social Marketing
- Public Relations
- Teaching
- Assessment
- Research

### HEALTH POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
- Operations
- Finance
- Program Management
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Marketing
- Public Relations
- Facilities
- Patient Care
- Provider Relations
- Policy Analysis
- Policy Development

## EMPLOYERS

### BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE AND HEALTH EDUCATION
- Local, state, and federal government
- Nonprofit organizations such as:
  - American Red Cross
  - American Heart Association
  - American Cancer Society
  - American Lung Association
- Community mental health centers
- Local health departments
- Corporate wellness programs
- Fitness facilities
- Schools
- Colleges and universities
- Hospitals
- Research and development firms
- International health agencies

### HEALTH POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
- Hospitals
- Health systems
- Clinics
- Medical groups
- Hospices
- Home health agencies
- Long-term care facilities
- Mental health facilities
- Health maintenance organizations (HMOs)
- Academic medical centers
- Public health departments
- Government programs such as:
  - Medicare
  - Medicaid

## STRATEGIES

### BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE AND HEALTH EDUCATION
- Become familiar with grant writing techniques and grant submission procedures.
- Supplement curriculum with relevant coursework in social work, sociology, psychology, English, journalism, or public relations.
- Volunteer to gain experience and develop expertise in a particular area or organization.
- Learn to work well with diverse populations.
- Get credentialed as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).
- Become involved in health programming on campus.
- Obtain part-time or summer job with campus health center or wellness coordinator.
- Develop strong public speaking and presentation skills.

### HEALTH POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
- Supplement undergraduate curriculum with courses in business.
- Earn a master's degree in Public Health, Business, or a related field.
- Gain experience through internships and other work experiences.
- Develop strong computer and technology skills.
- For positions in lobbying and legislation, some will earn a law degree.
- Join related professional organizations and build a network of contacts.
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<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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<td><strong>ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH</strong></td>
<td>Government agencies such as:</td>
<td>Plan to take courses in chemistry, biology, geology and other related sciences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air Quality</td>
<td>CDC’s National Center for Environmental Health</td>
<td>Learn to work well with a team of other professionals such as physicians, engineers, and scientists.</td>
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<td>Food Protection</td>
<td>National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health</td>
<td>Read related journals to stay abreast of new trends and legislation in the field.</td>
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<td>Radiation Protection</td>
<td>Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry</td>
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<td>Solid Waste Management</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
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<td>Water Quality</td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
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<td>Noise Control</td>
<td>Local and state health departments</td>
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<td>Housing Quality</td>
<td>Armed services</td>
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<td>Vector Control</td>
<td>Private research facilities</td>
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<td>Risk Assessment</td>
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<td>Management</td>
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<td>Policy Development</td>
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<td><strong>EPIDEMIOLOGY</strong></td>
<td>Government agencies such as:</td>
<td>Develop a solid background in the biological sciences and mathematics.</td>
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<td>Research</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
<td>Gain experience with research. Volunteer to assist professors with research or apply for summer research programs.</td>
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<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Armed services</td>
<td>Find a topic of interest and gain as much knowledge and experience in that area.</td>
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<td>Program Design</td>
<td>World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
<td>Earn a master’s or doctoral degree in public health, epidemiology, microbiology, or a related field.</td>
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<td>Program Evaluation</td>
<td>Private research foundations</td>
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<td>Incident/Disease Investigation</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical industry</td>
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<td>Risk Assessment</td>
<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
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<td>Surveillance</td>
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<td><strong>BIOSTATISTICS</strong></td>
<td>Local, state, and federal government</td>
<td>Hone skills and interest in mathematics and statistics.</td>
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<td>Research Methodology</td>
<td>Public health departments</td>
<td>Develop strong computing and technology skills.</td>
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<td>Data Analysis</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control</td>
<td>Get involved with research and gain as much experience as possible.</td>
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<td>Clinical trials</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical industry</td>
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AREAS

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH
- Social and Economic Development
- Health Policy
- Demography
- Women’s Health
- Children’s Health
- Design of Healthcare Systems
- Disease Prevention and Control

EMPLOYERS
- International organizations such as:
  - World Health Organization (WHO)
  - United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)
  - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
  - Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
  - World Bank

- Bilateral government development agencies such as:
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - Public Health Service
  - Office of International Health
  - Peace Corps

- Nonprofit organizations such as:
  - International Red Cross
  - CARE
  - Doctors Without Borders

STRATEGIES
- Learn one or more foreign languages.
- Study or intern abroad.
- Learn to adapt to cultural and racial diversity.
- Be willing to live and work in third world nations.
- Develop a specialty area of interest via supplemental coursework and/or work experience for greater marketability within that specific career field.
- Cultivate personal characteristics such as enthusiasm, dedication, and a positive attitude. Maintain and demonstrate a personal commitment to healthy living.
- Writing, research, and presentation skills are critical in most career fields related to public health.
- Gain experience working with diverse populations across diverse settings. Learn to work well with others individually and in groups.

GENERAL INFORMATION
- Public health is a broad, multi-disciplinary field. Other specialties within public health include areas such as: women’s health, children’s health, nutrition, bioterrorism, gerontology, and veterinary public health.
- A bachelor’s degree opens the door for entry level opportunities in areas such as health education and promotion and environmental health.
- A master’s degree is typically required for management, administration, research, policy development, biostatistics, and epidemiology.
- A doctoral degree is required to reach the highest levels of administration or research and for university teaching positions.
- Many opportunities in public health exist with government agencies especially: The Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Health Resources and Services Administration, Indian Health Service, National Institutes of Health, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Become familiar with government hiring procedures. Obtain a government internship in area of interest.
- Writing, research, and presentation skills are critical in most career fields related to public health.
- Gain experience working with diverse populations across diverse settings. Learn to work well with others individually and in groups.