APPLYING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH: MASTERS OR GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

The School of Nursing offers a Master of Public Health or Graduate Certificate in Public Health online with a focus in primary healthcare and health disparities. This track of the Oregon Master of Public Health (OMPH) program is based upon the concepts and principles of primary healthcare. The World Health Organization (1978) defines primary healthcare as "essential healthcare based on practical, scientifically sound and socially acceptable methods and technology, made universally available to individuals and families in the community through their full participation and at a cost that the community and the country can afford to maintain at every stage of their development in the spirit of self-reliance and self-determination". In this view, primary healthcare is both a philosophy of healthcare and an approach to providing health services. By emphasizing improvement in primary healthcare accessibility and quality for underserved populations, this degree program prepares graduates to tackle health disparities in a unique way.

Master’s in Public Health: With this degree students are prepared to assume clinical leadership roles in a variety of settings, including but not limited to community health centers and health maintenance organizations, community agencies and health departments, and official and voluntary health agencies and organizations. Graduates are able to ensure the quality of implemented clinical and community care activities, act as a resource for the development of innovative and expanded responses in clinical and community care, coordinate care with regional and county offices, interface with all services involved with the care of patients, and provide counseling and education for families and patients receiving care.

Graduate Certificate in Public Health: The Graduate Certificate in Public Health (GCPH) is jointly governed by the Oregon Master of Public Health and the OHSU School of Nursing. The GCPH program content is designed to enhance the preparation of public health professionals not currently prepared in a public health academic specialty, and provide a broad introduction to public health for students. Students who successfully complete the GCPH are eligible to apply to the OMPH to complete a Master of Public Health. Students interested in enrolling in any of the MPH granting tracks of the OMPH program must apply and be admitted. Successful completion of the Graduate Certificate in Public Health or program courses does not guarantee admissions to the MPH degree program. Please note: The Graduate Certificate in Public Health option is not eligible for Financial Aid.

The School of Nursing’s Master of Public Health program is offered in conjunction with the Oregon Master of Public Health Program. The OMPH collaboration includes OHSU, Portland State University and Oregon State University. The OMPH program combines broad training in public health with specific education in one of the specialty tracks offered at the participating universities.

Course Delivery
This program begins in the fall and is offered online both full and part time to Oregon residents and beyond.

Application Instructions
www.ohsu.edu/son
Admissions & Prospective Students > Applying
Admissions Factors:
Admissions decisions are strongly based on the following criteria:

- Cumulative GPA
- GRE score (MPH only)
- Essay response & interview
- 3 Letters of Recommendation

Admission Requirements & Eligibility
Applicants must have the following materials in order to apply to the Master of Public Health-Primary Health Care and Health Care Disparities and Graduate Certificate in Public Health.

Prior Degree
It is expected that applicants to the public health graduate programs have a Bachelor’s Degree from a regionally accredited institution. It is not required to hold a nursing or medical degree.

Work Experience
Work experience is not required for either program. OHSU welcomes applications from those who are new to the public health field as well as from more experienced public health professionals.

Grade Point Average
Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Scores (Master’s applicants only; Certificate does not apply)
The OHSU School of Nursing GRE code is 4900. OHSU recommends a minimum score of 500 in each section (verbal and quantitative) as well as a minimum analytic writing score of 4.0 for the scoring scale used prior to August 2011 or a 144 in the quantitative section, 153 in the verbal section, and a minimum analytic writing score of 4.5 to be competitive.

- GRE scores are only required for those applying to the Master of Public Health program. Applicants to the Graduate Certificate program are not required to submit standardized test scores. Master of Public Health applicants may submit MCAT scores in place of GRE scores. Applicants admitted to the Certificate program may apply to the MPH program at a later time, but must follow MPH admissions requirements including GRE scores.

Applicants who already hold master’s degrees from accredited US institutions do not need to take the GRE.

Statistics
Must successfully pass a basic statistics course from a regionally accredited college with a grade of "B-" or better prior to entry into the Master of Public Health program. Applicants to the Graduate Certificate program are not required to meet the statistics requirement.

Application Instructions
www.ohsu.edu/son
Admissions & Prospective Students > Applying
Letters of Recommendation
Applicants must submit 3 letters of reference as part of their application. Electronic reference forms are located and sent out via the online SOPHAS application system. It is preferable that applicants submit references from the following: a supervisor, an instructor, and a co-worker.

HOW TO APPLY TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM:

Step 1: Review and follow the specific applications instructions for your program located on the OHSU School of Nursing website found at www.ohsu.edu/son in the tab “Admissions & Prospective Students”, then select “Applying”. This Applying page offers a complete check list of instructions, helpful links, and additional forms to upload to your application.

Step 2: The OHSU School of Nursing uses an independent organization that processes applications for OHSU called SOPHAS. www.sophas.org You must set up a SOPHAS account and start your application for the program to which you are applying. All students applying to the OHSU Nursing – MPH and GCPH programs must submit an application through SOPHAS by the stipulated deadline date in order to be considered for admissions.

Step 3: Upload and add all required items into your SOPHAS account. All required application materials are as follows:
  ✓ Official transcripts: Transcripts must be mailed from your college(s) to SOPHAS. Mail to: SOPHAS, P.O. Box 9111, Watertown, MA 02471
  ✓ Manually enter every college course into your SOPHAS account.
  ✓ 3 Letters of Recommendation (instructor, supervisor, co-worker)
  ✓ Curriculum Vitae or Resume
  ✓ Essay response (Essay prompts available in the Nursing CAS application
  ✓ GRE scores (Master’s only; enter scores to the Standardized Tests section. Code 4900.)
  ✓ 5-year time limit Statistics waiver form (If necessary. Upload to the Documents section in SOPHAS. Form available on the bottom of OHSU’s Applying page).

Step 4: Once the above steps have been completed in your SOPHAS application, you must submit your application via SOPHAS in order to have your application reviewed by OHSU. Nursing CAS Support: 617-612-2090, Mon. – Thurs. 9am -7pm EST, Friday 9am – 5pm EST. Applications will not be reviewed or considered without all official transcripts on file through the SOPHAS system.

Step 5: All students applying to any of the OHSU Nursing programs must submit an OHSU supplemental application through OHSU’s online application system. Your OHSU supplemental application must be submitted by the stipulated deadline date.

Application Instructions
www.ohsu.edu/son
Admissions & Prospective Students > Applying
Equal Opportunity/Non-Discrimination Policy

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 protects individuals from discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity operated by recipients of federal aid. OHSU complies with Title IX and 34 CFR Part 106 by prohibiting sex and gender discrimination in education programs, activities, employment, and admissions. Inquiries about Title IX compliance or sex/gender discrimination may be directed to the OHSU Title IX Coordinator: Michael Tom, Director of the Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity (AAEO) Dept., 503-494-5148, tomm@ohsu.edu. Mailing address: OHSU, Mail code MP240, 3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, OR 97239. Office: Marquam Plaza