Public Health Major

Educate the public about healthy practices to improve wellness and quality of life.

Public health is the science and art of preventing illness and disease and promoting healthy practices to improve the quality of life. With a degree in public health education from the University of North Dakota, you’ll be qualified to serve the public in community health clinics, hospitals, government agencies, schools, and other organizations.

Program Snapshot

- Program type: Major
- Format: On-campus or online
- Est. time to complete: 4 years
- Credit hours: 120

Why Study Public Health Education at UND?

The Public Health Education program is based on a strong foundation in the health sciences, social sciences and psychology. It prepares students to think critically and scientifically, while enhancing communication skills and leadership experiences with a focus on social justice. Students will be exposed to the ethical principles of public health practice in their work with diverse populations.

Students in the program experience:

- **Applied learning experiences.** All students complete a 12-credit internship, engage in service-learning projects, and are encouraged to participate in public health study abroad opportunities.
- **Flexibility and convenience.** UND offers the degree both on campus and online and prepares students to take the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam.
- **Opportunities for advancement.** You can earn both your undergraduate and graduate degrees at UND in just five years. Plus, one hundred percent of undergraduate PHE students who sought graduate school admission were accepted.

The curriculum exposes students to the five core areas of public health: epidemiology, biostatistics, social and behavioral sciences, health policy and management, and environmental health.

Students choose between Option A, which allows students to serve the broader public and Option B, which prepares students to teach health education in schools.

Priority Application Deadlines

**FALL: FEB. 1* (FRESHMEN) | APRIL 15* (TRANSFER STUDENTS)**
**SPRING: DEC. 1**
**SUMMER: APRIL 1**
*academic scholarship priority deadline
Public Health Highlights

- Learn the principles of evidence-based public health and key elements such as health communications, health policy, law and ethics.
- Understand how community health programs are developed and implemented.
- Apply skills and knowledge in a supervised internship and service-learning projects.
- The major accommodates pre-professional students in areas such as pharmacy, optometry, medicine and dentistry.
- 100% of our graduates who apply to graduate school are accepted.
- Become eligible to sit for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) Exam after completing the program.

Careers in Public Health

37K  Estimated starting salary for public health education graduates*

16%  Job growth outlook for health educators and community health workers through 2026**

*Association of Schools & Programs of Public Health  
**U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

What Can You Do With a Public Health Degree?

The degree prepares students to pursue entry level careers in public health education, health promotion, environmental health, community health, epidemiology, nutrition, health informatics, biostatistics, global health, maternal and child health, health economics, health services research, health policy and health planning and assessment, or to teach health education in schools.

Public health practitioners work in a variety of settings such as community health clinics, hospitals, community centers and nonprofit organizations. They also work in corporate and worksite wellness programs.

Another option is local or state health departments or local parks and recreation departments that run health and wellness programs.