

Temple University's Department of Public Health and Temple University School of Medicine (TUSM) have created a program that allows medical students to obtain a Masters in Public Health (MPH) while they complete the MD program. This degree combination will enhance careers in medicine by enabling physicians to better understand and address the social, behavioral and environmental factors that influence the health and health practices of their patients. Additional benefits include new career opportunities and access to a broader base of external funding.

Temple's MPH is fully accredited by the Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH) and offers four transcribed concentrations in the MPH degree program: Social and Behavioral Science (SBS), Environmental Health (EH), Epidemiology and Biostatistics (EBS), and Global Health (GH). For descriptions of these concentrations please visit http://www.temple.edu/chp/departments/publichealth/PH_grad_master.htm.

The combined MD-MPH degree program interweaves the medical school curriculum and the public health curriculum so that medical students will add only one year to their medical school experience. Medical students will begin the MPH curriculum on a part time basis during the second semester of their first year of medical school and complete the program with one year of full time MPH course work taken during a leave of absence from TUSM after completing the second year of medical school.

Credit Hour Requirements for MD/MPH Tracks in SBS, EH, EBS, & GH

MPH Core	18 credit hours (6 classes)
Concentrations*	18 credit hours (6 classes)
Electives	3 credit hours (1 class)
Total	39 credit hours

* including 6 c.h. of required culminating experience and 3 c.h. of elective within concentration

Dual degree students receive 6 semester hours (2 courses) of credit towards the elective requirement of the MPH based on their medical schoolwork. As such, the dual degree program is an efficient way for students to complete the two degrees.

The MPH culminating experience (CE) is completed during the MD/MPH students full time year in the MPH program and requires a student to synthesize and integrate knowledge acquired in coursework and to apply theory and principles in a situation that approximates some aspect of professional practice (fieldwork, in the form of an internship or independent project under the supervision of a preceptor). The **internship option** is designed to provide students with “hands on” work experience in a community health agency. A total of 252 contact hours are required, at least 225 of which must be served at the community health agency, however many students exceed the required number of hours to complete assigned tasks. The **independent project option** is designed to provide students with an opportunity to take a principal role in the development, implementation, and analysis of a project within a community health agency. Students have the option of completing their report in the form of a publication for submission to a public health journal.

To Apply: Students should indicate on their application to the medical school that they want to apply to the MD/MPH program. The medical school will invite students to apply to the dual degree program and then these students will complete the MPH application process. MD/MPH applicants do not need to take the GREs and need two letters of recommendation speaking to their public health aptitude/experience, a statement of purpose, and a CV. Students may also choose to apply to the program during their first semester at medical school.