

**colorado school of
public health**

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Doctor of Public Health 2026-2027

Student Handbook

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A Message from the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs



Welcome to the Colorado School of Public Health!

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you as the newest members of our academic community. Your decision to join us marks the beginning of an exciting and impactful journey. Throughout this journey we will rise together to reimagine public health, champion health for all, and build a healthier future through education, research, and community partnership

We are a collaborative School dedicated to fostering an environment where you can thrive both academically and personally. Here, you will have access to innovative learning opportunities, cutting-edge research, and a supportive network committed to your success. Throughout your time with us, you will engage in rigorous coursework, collaborate on meaningful projects, and develop the skills necessary to address some of the most pressing health challenges of our time.

I encourage you to take full advantage of the resources and opportunities available to you. Participate in research projects, join student organizations, attend seminars and workshops, and seek out mentorship and networking opportunities. These experiences will not only enhance your education but also help you build a strong foundation for your future career in public health.

As you embark on this new chapter, remember that you are not alone. We are here to support you every step of the way. Together, we will work towards a healthier, more equitable future for all.

Once again, welcome to the School of Public Health. We are thrilled to have you with us and look forward to witnessing all that you will achieve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Madiha Abdel-Maksoud". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Madiha Abdel-Maksoud, MD, PhD, MSPH
Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs

Policies Are Subject to Change

Colorado School of Public Health handbooks comprise the policies and procedures relevant to enrollment and completion of ColoradoSPH programs at the time of publication in August of 2024. These policies are reviewed annually and are subject to change at that time or more often, if necessary.

Students are expected to adhere to the academic policies and procedures of each academic program, school, and university in which they are enrolled. Dual degree students need to be aware of and adhere to the policies in this handbook, as well as the policies for the other program in which they are enrolled. Dual degree students should familiarize themselves with policies associated with each of their academic programs.

Please bring any questions, concerns, or policy discrepancies to the attention of program staff.

Colorado School of Public Health

Overview

The Colorado School of Public Health is a collaborative institution formed by the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Northern Colorado. As the first and only school of public health in the nine-state Rocky Mountain West, we are uniquely positioned to lead in education, research, and community engagement.

From emerging infectious diseases and chronic conditions to environmental challenges and social barriers of health, our communities face complex and evolving public health issues. ColoradoSPH prepares a dynamic and practice-ready public health workforce equipped with the knowledge, skills, and values to meet these challenges. With more than 200 faculty across three campuses, our experts are advancing science and solutions that improve the lives of individuals and communities locally, nationally, and globally across every stage of life.

Vision Statement

Public Health Elevated. Rising Together for a Healthier Future for All

Mission Statement

Reimagine Public Health Education As a premier school for public health leaders and workforce, we create a dynamic and engaging educational experience that prepares students to partner with an array of communities and populations to address the most daunting public health problems.

Pursue & Champion Health for All We are resilient in our pursuit of health for all people. Our dedication ensures that every individual can achieve optimal health.

Centered in Science, Proven in Practice Our signature approach merges scientific research with practical application. By grounding our work in evidence-based methodologies, we translate academic insights into tangible health improvements.

Connect to Community, Build Partnerships for a Healthier Future At the heart of our mission are strong community connections and partnerships. We are indispensable to our partners and promote innovation that lays the foundation for thriving, healthier communities in all public health communities.

Uplift & Empower Our Community to Thrive Our faculty, staff, and students are the foundation of our entire organization. We recognize their individual strengths, champion their growth, and foster a sense of belonging among all members of our school community. We create an environment where our people thrive so that they can help others to thrive.

Accreditation

The Colorado School of Public Health, established in 2008 as the first accredited school of public health in the Rocky Mountain West, is a collaborative effort among the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Northern Colorado. Accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) since 2010 and re-accredited in 2024 through 2031, the school is committed to training and supporting a skilled public health workforce across Colorado and the region. Our accreditation reflects our mission to advance public health through education, research, and community engagement.

Administration

University Leadership & Academic Partners

Donald M. Elliman Jr. Chancellor, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus	Andrew Feinstein, PhD President, University of Northern Colorado
Amy Parsons, JD President, Colorado State University	

Colorado School of Public Health Leadership

Cathy Bradley, PhD Dean	Michelle Kuba, MPH Assistant Dean of Operations
Madiha Abdel-Maksoud, MD, PhD, MSPH Associate Dean for Academic & Student Affairs	Ned Calonge, MD, MPH Associate Dean for Public Health Practice
Linda Cook, PhD Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs	Patricia Valverde, PhD Director, University of Northern Colorado
Christine Gillen, MS Associate Dean for Finance and Administration	Tracy Nelson, PhD, MPH Director, Colorado State University
Cerise Hunt, PhD, MSW Associate Dean for Leadership Excellence	Dana Dabelea, MD, PhD Associate Dean of Research

Department Chairs

Elizabeth Carlton, PhD Chair, Environmental and Occupational Health	Jill Norris, PhD, MPH Chair, Epidemiology
Miria Kano, PhD Interim Chair, Community and Behavioral Health	Glen Mays, PhD Chair, Health Systems, Management & Policy
David Conti, PhD Chair, Biostatistics and Informatics	

Anschutz Medical Campus Staff

Katherine Brumfield, MA Career Services Manager	Laura Hager, MPA Director, Admissions and Student Affairs
Derly Santos Maldonado Admissions Processing Specialist	Tony Romero, MA Assistant Director, Evaluation & Accreditation
Kalia Nguyen, MA Student Support Specialist	Brenda Witt Academic Affairs Program Manager

Colorado State University Staff

Kendra Bigsby, MPH Assistant Director	Christina Pasana Academic Support Coordinator
Erika Lund Administrative Assistant	

University of Northern Colorado Staff

Allison DeVries Assistant to the Director
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General Information/Policies

Family Educational Rights and Privacy (FERPA)

Purpose of FERPA

FERPA deals specifically with students' education records, affording them certain rights with respect to those records. For purposes of definition, education records are those records, which are:

1. Directly related to a student and
2. Maintained by an institution or a party acting for the institution.

FERPA gives students who reach the age of 18 or who attend a post-secondary institution the right to inspect and review their own education records. Furthermore, the right to request amendment of records and to have some control over the disclosure of personally identifiable information from these records, shift from the parent to the students at this time.

FERPA applies to the education records of persons who are or have been in attendance in post-secondary institutions, including students in cooperative and correspondence study programs, videoconference, satellite, Internet or other electronic forms. FERPA does not apply to records of applicants for admission who are denied acceptance or, if accepted, do not attend an institution.

Directory Information

FERPA directory information is information contained in your education record that generally would not be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. Under current CU Denver policy, the following information is designated as directory information:

1. name
2. address, telephone number, and email address
3. dates of attendance
4. registration status
5. class
6. major
7. awards
8. honors
9. degrees conferred
10. photos

Although these items are designated by CU Denver as directory information, only a limited amount of this information is routinely disclosed by CU Denver officials, and the University retains the discretion to refuse to disclose directory information if it believes such disclosure would be an infringement of your privacy rights.

Nondisclosure of Directory Information

Students may ask the University not to publicly disclose directory information. Please note, however, that if you elect for nondisclosure of directory information and are seeking employment, the Registrar's Office cannot release your enrollment, degree status or major to anyone unless you come to the Registrar's Office with a photo ID.

Forms to prevent disclosure of directory information can be obtained at The Anschutz Medical Campus Registrar's Office or via the Registrar's website at:

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar/student-resources/forms>

Questions regarding your rights under FERPA should be directed to the Registrar's Office:

Anschutz Medical Campus:

Phone: 303-724-8059

Fax: 303-724-8060

Email: Registrar@CUAnschutz.edu

For additional information regarding FERPA, please visit the complete policy on the Registrar's website at: <https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar/student-resources/ferpa>

Immunization Policy

To ensure that a minimum standard of public health and safety is provided for our faculty, students, and community all students matriculating into any ColoradoSPH program are required to provide proof immunizations in accordance with University of Colorado Anschutz campus policy: 7014a---student-immunization-requirements-and-compliance.pdf. According to this policy, all students must provide proof of the following immunizations: measles, mumps, rubella, tuberculosis, varicella, hepatitis B, polio, influenza and the Tdap series (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis). Colorado School of Public Health utilizes the third party immunization verification system CastleBranch. Students who do not submit immunization records at the specified time may experience a hold on future registration and/or be administratively withdrawn from classes until proof of immunizations has been received.

Health Insurance Requirement

Full-time students (definition of full-time for health insurance purposes varies from campus to campus) are required to have a university student health insurance plan, unless proof of comparable coverage can be verified. Students are required to have insurance at their home campus only. If a student wishes to waive the insurance requirement due to comparable personal coverage, they may do so by petitioning the student health office at their home campus. Students at the Anschutz Medical Campus enrolled in one or more credit hours are required to have health insurance.

Background Check Policy

Students matriculating into any ColoradoSPH program (including non-degree) are required to pass a criminal background investigation. The background check is conducted during the admissions process through CastleBranch. Students are required to pay a non-refundable processing fee for conducting the background check. Students who work at the university also need to submit the processing fee and complete the student background check, as additional criteria are specified beyond that required for employment. This must be completed before course registration can begin.

Student Academic Honor and Conduct Code

Education at the Colorado School of Public Health (ColoradoSPH) is conducted under the honor system. Matriculation at ColoradoSPH implies the acceptance of, and adherence to, the ColoradoSPH Student Academic Honor and Conduct Code. All students who have entered graduate and health professional programs should have developed the qualities of honesty and integrity, and each student should apply these principles to his or her academic and subsequent professional career. All students are expected also to have achieved a level of maturity always reflected by appropriate conduct.

Although it is not possible to list every situation that violates the ColoradoSPH Student Academic Honor and Conduct Code, the following examples provide a frame of reference.

1. Academic Honesty

Students should adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity. Examples of behavior that violate these standards include, but are not limited to: plagiarism (including the undocumented or improperly documented use of internet and web-based information), cheating, copying solutions from solutions manuals or from tutors, and using it as your own work, citing references not used in your work, illegitimate possession and/or use of examinations, unlawful use of AI, violation of the ethical standards for conducting research, and falsification of official records.

2. Professional Conduct

As future health professionals, students should also adhere to the highest standards of professionalism. Examples of unprofessional conduct include misrepresentation of effort, credentials, or achievement in either the academic or professional setting; any action that compromises the quality or safety of patients, study participants, or the public; violation of patient or study participant confidentiality; institutional review board (IRB) violations; forgery, alteration, or misuse of any university document, record, or instrument of identification; disorderly, lewd or indecent conduct; disrespectful communications in all forms including verbal, written, email, and text messages; failure to be accountable or take responsibility for one's actions; and any other conduct unbecoming a professional public health practitioner, researcher, or educator.

3. Alcohol and Drug Use

Excessive alcohol and/or drug use compromises the student's ability to learn and to practice as a public health professional and thus is considered unprofessional conduct. Students who misuse alcohol and/or drugs should seek assistance from services available on campus or elsewhere. The sale of drugs or the possession of narcotics (unless prescribed by a medical doctor) is against the law. To minimize the potential for excessive alcohol use at campus functions, students must adhere to current University policy governing the consumption of alcohol on campus.

4. Respect for the Rights and Property of Others

Students should always conduct themselves in a manner that recognizes the rights and property of others. Examples of prohibited behavior include: theft, damage to University or personal property of others, disruption of educational or other activities on campus, illegal use of University facilities, sexual harassment, physical assault, violation of academic honesty standards in a way that affects other students or faculty, such as in a group or collaborative project, and any conduct that threatens the health or safety of others.

5. Adhere to all state and local public health and safety orders and campus public health and safety policies.

Students are responsible for knowing and following all health and safety orders and policies. Examples include the wearing of face coverings, guidelines for social gatherings and events, quarantines, isolation, orders to shelter in place, and any other public health and safety orders and policies.

Any student found to have committed acts of misconduct (including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, misconduct of research, breach of confidentiality, or illegal or unlawful acts) will be subject to the procedures outlined in the Honor Code.

Additional information regarding the ColoradoSPH Honor Code can be found online at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/education/calendars-policies>

Academic Grievance Policy

The Colorado School of Public Health (ColoradoSPH) recognizes that a student may have grievances about different aspects of his or her academic program. ColoradoSPH is committed to addressing these grievances promptly and professionally and reaching a fair resolution through a formal and unbiased process. In the statements below, "Associate Dean" refers to the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs.

Student Rights

All ColoradoSPH Students have the right to:

1. Competent instruction
2. Access to instructors outside of class during a specified set of office hours or by appointment
3. Clearly understand the grading system by which he or she will be judged, and expect that the grading system as determined by the instructor will be adhered to for the duration of the course
4. Be treated with respect and equality
5. Be treated fairly according to standards stated within the student handbook and each course syllabus

If a student feels as if they have been denied one of the above rights, that student may file a formal grievance with the school.

The full Academic Grievance policy can be found online at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/education/calendars-policies>

Non-Discrimination Policy Statement

The University of Colorado, including ColoradoSPH, will not discriminate against any applicant, student or employee because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, creed, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The university and ColoradoSPH will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants, students and employees are treated without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, creed, sexual orientation, or veteran status. The University of Colorado Non-Discrimination Policy can be found at: <https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5065>

Sexual Misconduct Policy Statement

It is the policy of ColoradoSPH to maintain the community as a place of work, study, and residence free of sexual harassment or exploitation of students, faculty, staff or administrators. All forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, are prohibited on campus and in any of the School's programs. ColoradoSPH is committed to taking appropriate action against any member of the University community who violates the policy. No retaliation will be taken against any individual for making a legitimate complaint. It is a violation of the ColoradoSPH policy to knowingly make a false accusation. For more information, please refer to the Title IX overview:

<https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/equity/university-policies-procedures#ac-sexual-misconduct-intimate-partner-violence-and-stalking-policy-aps-5014-1>

Policy on Pregnancy and Parenting

The Colorado School of Public Health does not discriminate against any student on the basis of pregnancy, parenting status, or related conditions. Absences due to medical conditions relating to pregnancy will be excused for as long as deemed medically necessary by the student's doctor and the student will be given the opportunity, wherever possible, to make up missed work. Students needing assistance can seek accommodations from the Office of Disability, Access, and Inclusion (disabilityaccess@cuanschutz.edu) or the Title IX Liaison for ColoradoSPH (Madiha Abdel-Maksoud, Madiha.Abel-Maksoud@cuanschutz.edu).

Email Policy

Email is an official means of communication for ColoradoSPH students. All official email related to enrollment at ColoradoSPH (including, but not limited to, financial aid, billing, transcripts, school announcements) will be sent to each student's assigned CU email address (name@cuanschutz.edu), regardless of the student's home campus. Students are responsible for checking their CU email on a regular basis. The student Academic Honor and Conduct Code should be followed when using university email and other forms of university electronic communication and devices.

For questions regarding your CU email account, please contact the Anschutz Medical campus OIT Department at (303) 724-HELP or visit their website at:

<https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/office-of-information-technology>

Identification/Access Badges

Students are required to have an electronic security photo ID badge for the safety and protection of all faculty, staff, and students on campus. Additionally, this badge allows students access to buildings and computer labs, as well as parking surfaces.

Badge applications for the CU Anschutz Medical Campus are issued to the ID Badge Office by the education staff prior to the start of a student's first semester in the program. Students should pick up their badges at one of the badging pickup days or make alternate arrangements with the Office of Academic and Student Affairs (coloradosph.studentaffairs@cuanschutz.edu)

Establishing Residency

The requirements for establishing residency for tuition purposes are defined by Colorado law. The statutes require that a qualified individual must be domiciled in Colorado for the twelve (12) consecutive months immediately preceding the term for which resident status is claimed.

A person's tuition classification status is initially determined using the Verification of Residency form

submitted during the application process for admission. If a person is classified as a “nonresident,” they must wait until they are eligible for a change in tuition classification and then file a petition for the change. Petitions that are denied may be appealed.

For more information regarding establishing residency, please visit the CU Anschutz Medical Campus Registrar’s website at:

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar/residency>

Tuition and Fees

Each semester, ColoradoSPH students receive a single bill for ColoradoSPH tuition and fees from the CU Anschutz Medical Campus Bursar’s Office, regardless of their home campus affiliation (CU, CSU, UNC). At the time of matriculation, all students are charged the university matriculation fee, background check fee, and enrollment deposit. Fees associated with the student’s primary campus, such as academic support fees and RTD fees are also assessed.

When students take courses at a campus other than their primary campus, there are not additional general fees for taking courses outside of the primary campus, but course-specific fees may still apply. All students, regardless of their home campus, must follow the CU Anschutz payment policies and deadlines. Additional information regarding fee and billing policies can be found on the bursar’s website at:

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/student-finances/billing-payments>

A breakdown of tuition and fees per campus can be found on the ColoradoSPH website at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/admissions/tuition-aid/cost-of-attendance>

Students must follow the published drop/add deadlines in order to receive a tuition refund for any dropped courses. For courses dropped before the semester’s drop/add deadline, full tuition and fees will be refunded. ***Courses dropped after the semester’s drop/add deadline will be considered withdrawals and will not be refunded tuition and fees.*** For more information on dropping or withdrawing from a course, see “Registration Policies” in this handbook.

The Academic Calendar, which specifies deadlines, including the drop/add deadline, can be found on the ColoradoSPH website at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/education/calendars-policies>

For students who have been approved to take a course(s) at the downtown CU Denver campus, the ColoradoSPH tuition rate will be charged for those courses, unless the student is enrolled in a dual degree program with the downtown campus. The ColoradoSPH tuition rate may be different than the downtown UCD campus rate.

Employee Tuition Benefit

Employees of the University of Colorado and their dependents may be eligible for up to nine credit hours per year to be used towards University of Colorado courses on a space-available basis. When employees are using the tuition benefit, registration can only occur 7 days prior to the first day of the semester or on or after the first day of classes (whichever comes first) in order for tuition to be waived. For registration of dependents, please see the link below, as new policies for dependent registration

are in development. Students who violate this policy are at risk of losing their tuition benefit. For the entire policy, restrictions and forms, please visit the Payroll and Benefit Services website:

<https://www.cu.edu/pbs/tuition-benefit/>

Employees on the CSU and UNC campuses using their employee tuition benefits may transfer in a maximum of 20 credits of approved public health coursework taken at a ColoradoSPH partner institution during the time of employment. Of these 20, a maximum of 10 non-degree credits are allowed prior to program matriculation.

Please note that CU Denver/ Anschutz Medical Campus waivers may only be applied to courses at CU Denver/Anschutz Medical Campus. ColoradoSPH's CU Anschutz students cannot use waivers for CSU and UNC courses.

Employees at CSU and UNC have their own system for tuition waivers. For more details, reference the links below.

UNC: <https://www.unco.edu/human-resources/employee-resources/benefits/>

CSU: <http://www.hrs.colostate.edu/benefits/study-privilege.html>

By university policy, tuition waivers are accepted on a space-available basis. Some courses, particularly core courses, have been reaching their enrollment caps with tuition-paying students, therefore, there has not been space for students using tuition waivers. Students who wish to use a tuition waiver and who must take these courses in a particular semester should consider paying tuition for these core courses and using tuition waiver credits for other courses that have more space available.

By university policy, tuition-paying students (including non-degree students) receive higher registration priority than students using tuition waivers.

Please visit the employee tuition benefit webpage for more information:

<http://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits/employee-tuition-benefit>

Financial Aid

All financial aid, regardless of a student's home campus (CU, CSU, UNC), is processed through the CU Anschutz Medical Campus Financial Aid Office. All ColoradoSPH students interested in applying for financial aid should do so through the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Detailed information can be found at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/admissions/tuition-aid/financing-your-education>

For financial aid purposes, full-time status is considered 5 credits per fall, spring, or summer term. Part-time is considered 3 credits per fall or spring term and 2 credits per summer term.

Statement about COVID-19 at ColoradoSPH

The Colorado School of Public Health ended its vaccination requirement, effective July 1, 2023. ColoradoSPH is operating on a hybrid model, with some areas operating remotely and in-person activity permitted, as specified by the school or unit. Masks are not required of vaccinated and boosted individuals

at this time. ColoradoSPH students and ColoradoSPH at CU Anschutz staff and faculty are no longer required to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

For the latest updates related to university operations and for resources, please visit the COVID-19 page of your home campus' website.

CUAnschutz:

<http://www.cuanschutz.edu/coronavirus>

CSU: <https://covid.colostate.edu/>

UNC: <https://www.unco.edu/student-health-center/health-topics/covid-information.aspx>

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus guidance policies remain in effect for everyone – regardless of vaccination status – who has COVID-19-like symptoms, tests positive or may have been exposed to a COVID-19 case. Anyone fitting these categories is asked to follow the protocol listed for each category under the Guidance section of the COVID-19 Protocols & Resources website:
<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/coronavirus>.

Registration Policies

All students – regardless of home campus affiliation (CSU, CU, UNC) – should register for ColoradoSPH courses through UCD Access at:

<https://portal.prod.cu.edu/UCDAccessFedAuthLogin.html>

Students must have a CU email address to access the registration system.

ColoradoSPH students may register for courses offered at any of the three partner institutions. While the add/drop deadline and tuition payment deadline are the same for all campuses, the start of classes at each campus may be different, so it is important that students are aware of campus-specific dates and deadlines.

Semester start and end dates for each campus, as well as registration deadlines, can be found on the ColoradoSPH Academic Calendar at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/education/calendars-policies>

Auditing Courses

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus does not allow auditing of courses. Students may register for a course for “No Credit,” but must pay the full tuition and fees. Students must designate “No Credit” by the appropriate deadlines as set forth by the Registrar’s Office. No Credit forms are available from the CU Anschutz Medical Campus Registrar’s Office:

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar>

Late Registration

Students who wish to register for a course after the drop/add deadline must obtain the approval of both the course instructor and Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs. If late registration is approved, a late registration fee of \$60 will be assessed. Students should use the Registration Form on the CU Anschutz Registrar’s website to request late registration to a course.

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar/register>

Dropping & Adding a Course

The drop/add period usually extends 1-2 weeks into the semester from the first day of classes and is typically shorter in summer semesters. Please consult the ColoradoSPH Academic Calendar for exact deadlines. You may drop or add a class during the drop/add period using the registration system in the UCD Access portal:

<https://portal.cusys.edu/UCDAccessFedAuthLogin.html>

After the drop/add deadline has passed, discontinuation of course enrollment will be considered a withdrawal, and will follow policies detailed in "Course Withdrawal Policy" below. Withdrawal will result in 0% tuition reimbursement and a corresponding grade of "W" (withdrawal) will be reflected on the transcript.

Please note that for courses with start dates that vary from the regular academic calendar (e.g., some summer courses are compressed to short time frames that start after the summer drop/add deadline), students may avoid a tuition penalty if they withdraw before the 2nd class meeting.

Permission to register for or withdraw from a course after the drop/add period without a tuition penalty will be granted only in the presence of extenuating circumstances, and require the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Appeals for tuition refunds after the drop/add deadline will follow the policy outlined on the Tuition Appeals Form on the ColoradoSPH website:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

Drop/add deadlines can be found on the ColoradoSPH Academic Calendar at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/education/calendars-policies>

Registering for Courses on Other CU Campuses

ColoradoSPH students are able to register for UC Denver (downtown) campus courses with the UCD Access registration system, given that any prerequisite requirements are met. For more information about tuition and fees for courses taken at non-ColoradoSPH campuses, see "Tuition and Fees" in this handbook. If the student wishes to apply a course taken at UCD downtown toward their degree program requirements, they must secure faculty advisor approval **prior** to taking the course. See "Electives outside ColoradoSPH" below.

Students who would like to enroll for a course on the Boulder or Colorado Springs campuses **do not** register on UCD Access. Instead, they must complete the *Concurrent Registration Form* found on the Anschutz Medical Campus Registrar's Office at:

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar>

Approval from both the host and home campuses is required. After all signatures have been obtained, the completed form should be return to the CU Anschutz Medical Campus Registrar's Office for processing. Students must be registered for at least one course on their home campus in order to add a concurrent class on either the Boulder or Colorado Springs campuses

Leave of Absence

Students who need to interrupt their coursework for a semester or more, either because of academic requirements for a dual degree program, or because of extenuating circumstances such as prolonged illness, maternity/paternity leave, or extreme personal hardship, may request a leave of absence.

Please note:

- Students must have completed at least one semester in their program and must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above to be eligible for a leave of absence.
- Leaves of absence are valid for no longer than one year
- Time spent on leave does not increase the maximum allowable time limit to complete the degree program

Students desiring an extended break in progress toward their degree (more than the one year allotted by a leave of absence) should withdraw from the University and reapply for admission when they are ready to resume coursework. Upon possible readmission, any courses older than five years will need to be revalidated with the *Course Validation Form* on the ColoradoSPH website before the course(s) will count towards the degree requirements.

A leave of absence can be requested using the *Leave of Absence Request Form* on the ColoradoSPH website at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

Any leaves of absence from the DrPH program must be approved in advance by the Program Director and the Associate Dean for Academic & Student Affairs.

Course Withdrawal Policy & Timeframe

Withdrawal from a course is a formal discontinuation of the course after the drop/add period, and results in a grade of “W” on the student’s official transcript. If attendance in a current course is discontinued without an official withdrawal, the student’s transcript will reflect the grade earned for that course. **Withdrawals from courses are not eligible for tuition reimbursements.**

- 100% reimbursement will be granted if a ColoradoSPH course is dropped before classes begin or during the drop/add period (see ColoradoSPH Academic Calendar for semester deadlines)
- There will be no reimbursement for withdrawal after the drop/add period and a grade of “W” (withdrawal) will be reflected on the transcript.

In the case that circumstances outside the student’s control necessitate withdrawal from coursework after the drop/add deadline, students may submit an appeal for a tuition refund. Appeals for tuition refunds after the drop/add deadline will follow the policy outlined on the Tuition Appeals Form on the ColoradoSPH website:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

Please note that the Academic Calendar for the ColoradoSPH does not necessarily align with other programs that are part of a dual degree program, and often does not align across all three campuses of the ColoradoSPH. Therefore, students should carefully check the ColoradoSPH academic calendar for drop/add deadlines each semester.

Grading Policy

All coursework must be completed on time. Exceptions are considered only under special circumstances (either academic or personal-beyond the student's control), and terms of exception must be agreed upon in advance by the instructor. Without a prior agreement, the instructor will assume that the student's work is unsatisfactory, which will be reflected in the student's grade.

If special arrangements are made for extenuating circumstances, the student can be assigned a grade of "I" (incomplete). For more information, see "Incomplete Coursework" below.

Students **must receive grades of B- (2.70) or higher in all required courses**. Any course in which a grade below a B- (2.70) is received is not acceptable to be counted toward fulfilling program requirements for master's or doctoral programs; these courses may be used to fulfill elective credits only.

If a student receives a grade below a B- in a core or required course, they may re-take the course once to secure a passing grade. For courses taken twice, both course grades will be included in calculation of cumulative grade point average (GPA), and will appear on the student's transcript. Course credits for repeated courses may be counted only once toward satisfying credit requirements for the degree. If the course is a pre-requisite to another course, the student must obtain special permission from the instructor if they wish to enroll in the advanced/subsequent course before re-taking the pre-requisite.

Grading System

For the calculation of grade point average (GPA), the following point assignments are used at the CU-AMC and CSU campuses:

Grades	Non-Grade status in course
A = 4.0 A- = 3.70 (A+ is not given in this system)	IP – In progress used for dissertation credits
B+ = 3.30 B = 3.0 B- = 2.70	I – Incomplete (Converts to an "F" if not completed after a maximum of one year)
C+ = 2.30 C = 2.00 C- = 1.70	W – Withdrawal (used for courses dropped after the drop/add period)
D+ = 1.30 D = 1.00 D- = 0.70	
F = 0.00	

At the UNC campus, only whole grades are given (A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, D=1.0, F=0.0)

Some courses use a Satisfactory (S)/Unsatisfactory (U) grading system. These grades are not included in the student's GPA.

Students should expect that a clear grading rubric will be presented at the beginning of each course and used in determining their grades. Upon request by a student, the instructor of a course should provide evidence to support the grade assigned to the student.

Students may access their grades in ColoradoSPH courses via UCD Access; grades are not mailed or distributed by the ColoradoSPH or the Anschutz Medical Campus.

Incomplete Coursework

In the case that a student cannot complete a course during the regular semester, the student may request an incomplete or "I" grade in the course, which will enable the student to complete the course on a timeline agreed upon by student and instructor.

Students must gain approval from the instructor of the course in which they are seeking an incomplete prior to the end of the academic term by completing the Request for a Grade of Incomplete Form found on the ColoradoSPH website at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

A substantial amount of work must have been satisfactorily completed before approval for an incomplete grade is given. Students will be granted no more than one year in which to finalize incomplete coursework and solidify their grade. If the coursework is not completed in that timeframe, a grade of "F" will automatically be applied to the student's transcript.

Students who have been approved for an incomplete grade and need to continue the course should **not** re-register for the course on UCD Access, because this will cause duplicate tuition to be charged. If an 'incomplete' grade has been approved and continued access to online materials (i.e., Canvas) is needed, please contact the Office of Admissions & Student Affairs. ***Students should not re-register for the course to gain access to online course materials.***

Academic Probation

If a student's cumulative GPA across courses that will be applied to their program falls below 3.0, they will be placed on academic probation. The student will have two terms (fall and spring) in which to raise their cumulative GPA to 3.0. If a student on probation does not raise their cumulative GPA after these two terms, they will be subject to termination upon the recommendation of the associate dean for academic and student affairs. Students who demonstrate progress towards this goal but are unable to sufficiently raise their GPA over the allotted two terms, may request an extension of the probation period. Extensions will also be considered in the case of extenuating circumstances and will be granted at the discretion of the associate dean for academic and student affairs.

Termination from the Program

The Office of Academic Affairs will notify students who are terminated from their ColoradoSPH program for reasons of academic performance or misconduct. Such notification will include the reasons for termination and the right of appeal. The appeal must be made within 14 calendar days from the receipt of the notice of termination. The ColoradoSPH Dean will consider appeals and determine results.

Any student who is terminated from a ColoradoSPH program following unsuccessful academic probation or failure to meet program guidelines for satisfactory academic progress may reapply for admission to the program after one year and with evidence of better preparation. Such evidence might include the successful completion of graduate courses taken elsewhere or other steps taken to overcome deficiencies that led to termination. The student's application will be considered equally with other applications but will not be given special consideration.

Withdrawal from the Colorado School of Public Health

Students who wish to withdraw from the ColoradoSPH must submit a University Withdrawal Form to the office of the registrar.

https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider266/forms/withdrawal-form_official-university.pdf

DrPH Program Policies

The DrPH Program is a professional doctoral program designed to train research leaders, public health policy-makers and public health practitioners who are able to address complex public health issues. Individuals with a DrPH degree combine sophisticated analytic and research skills with a broad-based understanding of the environmental, political, social, behavioral, medical, ethical, economic and systems factors that contribute to health and wellness in the community.

The DrPH degree prepares students for leadership positions that have major influence on the policies, programs and institutions of public health. This will often involve taking a leadership role in defining public health needs, designing public health strategies and programs to address those needs, and evaluating the effectiveness of policies and programs in meeting public health objectives. Typical worksites for individuals with a DrPH degree include local, state, national and international public health agencies, non-profit foundations, and universities.

In addition to gaining leadership, management and advocacy skills, graduates of the DrPH program will develop strong research and practice skills in a focus area of public health. The Colorado School of Public Health currently offers three major focus areas: Community and Behavioral Health (CBH), Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH) and Epidemiology (EPI).

How does a DrPH program differ from a PhD program?

- The DrPH is an advanced professional degree designed to prepare individuals for public health [evidence-based] leadership and practice-based research roles¹.
- PhD training is typically aimed at graduates who focus on research in narrowly defined areas, while the DrPH is aimed at graduates who focus on broader practice-oriented applications. The DrPH Public Health Practice Dissertation addresses, generates, and/or interprets and evaluates knowledge applicable to practice.
- DrPH degree holders perform and evaluate evidence based public health practice.
- The DrPH degree includes competency requirements in the areas of advocacy, communication, community/cultural orientation, critical analysis, leadership, budgeting and management, professionalism and ethics. These competency areas are reflected in specific program coursework.
- DrPH students complete a public health practicum in which they collaborate with senior public health practitioners to develop and apply leadership, management, and advocacy skills.

¹ Source: Association of Schools of Public Health. DrPH Core Competency Model Version 1.3, November 2009.

DrPH Requirements

Successful completion of the DrPH program requires 55 credit hours of approved coursework. Program requirements are detailed at the following link:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/education/degrees-and-programs/doctor-of-public-health>

Each student, in consultation with their Faculty Advisor, will develop a proposed plan of study. The plan of study must specify the focus area (CBH, EOH or EPI) selective area courses to be taken, and proposed timeline for courses, practicum, comprehensive exams, and dissertation. The DrPH degree has been designed to be completed within 4-5 years at full-time effort. There is a 7-year time limit. The minimum enrollment requirement for DrPH students is four (4) semesters of full-time scholarly work.

In addition, all DrPH students will be required to TA one course (1 semester) in their department during their DrPH program, in order to gain teaching experience. Students in the Epidemiology Department are required to TA two core Epidemiology courses during their DrPH program.

Program Credit Areas

The DrPH program requires 55 total credit hours in the following areas:

Focus Area

12-15 credit hours must be taken in the CBH, EOH, or EPI focus areas. Please refer to CBH, EOH, or EPI Focus Area information following this description for specific requirements.

Selective Area Courses

Selective area courses are graduate level courses in the area of specialization determined by the student in consultation with their advisor. The student must satisfy 9-12 credit hours of coursework, depending on their focus area. For EPI students, at least 3 of these 9 selective credits must be from doctoral level courses. . For CBH and EOH students, at least 6 of the 12 selective credits must be from doctoral level courses. This coursework is intended to lead to expertise in the area in which the student will be examined in the comprehensive exams and in which the dissertation will be completed. These courses may be taken at the Colorado School of Public Health or at another relevant school or department with approval from the faculty advisor and/or the DrPH Director for the student's focus area. The student's dissertation committee will review the student's background and may advise coursework in the chosen areas of study. If selective area courses are taken prior to forming a dissertation committee, the committee later may require additional coursework to fulfill the selective requirement.

Leadership

A doctoral-level course on leadership development must be taken at the Colorado School of Public Health or, with permission, at another affiliated school. The ColoradoSPH Doctoral Leadership Seminar (CBHS 7020) is offered every other summer semester and is intended to provide a foundation for emerging public health leaders that will include taking leadership from theory and principle to action and practice in contexts of the individual, team, organization and community. Central leadership topics addressed include: vision, values, collaborative action, coaching, emotional and social intelligence, decision making styles, conflict management and difficult conversations, teamwork, and leadership practices.

Management

A doctoral-level course on the principles of management must be taken at the Colorado School of Public Health or, with permission, at another affiliated school. HSMP 7603 Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning & Management is designed to provide advanced skills in management, budgeting, organizational communications and strategic planning relevant to public health leadership. HSMP 7603 is offered in Spring of even years.

Communications

A doctoral-level course on advanced principles and practice in public health communication must be taken at the Colorado School of Public Health, or, with permission, at another affiliated school. The course, Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact (EHOH 7405) is designed to equip public health leaders with advanced skills in written and oral communication. EHOH 7405 is offered in Spring of odd years.

Proposal Writing

The overall goal of this 3-credit hour requirement is to develop skills in preparing high quality, successful, research or practice-based research grant applications. Students will become familiar with different granting mechanisms (e.g., NIH, CDC, foundations) and develop grant writing skills, including the ability to formulate research plans and budgets. This is a closely mentored and intensive activity that is intended to lead directly to the submission of a grant application. Students are advised to take EPID 7912 no sooner than Year 2.

DrPH Seminar

Four, 1-credit semesters of the DrPH Seminar (PUBH 6842) are required. Students will attend the seminar for the first 4 semesters of their tenure in the program. This sequence is intended to introduce DrPH students to the historical, conceptual, and value foundations of public health and facilitate their development of skills in social change consistent with the frameworks of the field. Readings and assignments will challenge the students to synthesize new concepts and examine complex practical issues encountered in the field. In the professional skills segment, students will engage in activities that facilitate practice of professional skills. Throughout, students will lead seminar discussions, receive feedback on written work, and be urged to prepare reflective documents to help them consider the progression in their thinking.

Practicum

All DrPH students must engage in a minimum of 240 hours of fieldwork (PUBH 6850 DrPH Practicum). This will usually be completed with an agency outside of the Colorado School of Public Health (e.g., local health department, state health department, community-based organization, etc.). The fieldwork experience should address, at a minimum, five DrPH competencies. The students are required to demonstrate DrPH foundational competency 5, one additional foundational competency from the Leadership, Management and Governance domain, and three additional competencies that can be foundational or focus area specific.

Students are advised to begin their practicum after they have completed the management and leadership course requirements and 24 credit hours of their program. Please refer to the Practicum and Capstone Essentials Canvas site for information, forms and resources.

Directed Reading

This course is intended to help prepare DrPH students for their comprehensive exams and dissertation. After taking this course, the student will be an expert in their specific area(s) of concentration, including understanding of the historical development of the specific area(s), current research findings in the specific area(s), and current practice in the areas. Readings will address current epidemiological understanding of the area, methodological aspects of the area, theoretical underpinnings of behavior and/or policy related to the area, and current practice.

For example, in the area of physical activity, upon completion of this activity, a student would be expected to have a thorough understanding of epidemiological evidence supporting or disputing a relationship between physical activity and disease etiology, natural history, and prognosis, physiological/psychological mechanisms for the relationship between physical activity and health/disease status, social, environmental and system level determinants, theoretical approaches used in understanding determinants of physical activity behavior, methods for assessing levels of physical activity, and current practices in developing programs and policies for increasing levels of physical activity.

Prior to enrolling in the course, and with guidance from the committee, the student will:

- Select at least two areas of focus that are in line with the student's dissertation area of study.
- Compile an extensive reading list in these select areas. The reading list should include seminal readings, reviews, meta-analyses and key original pieces of work. These readings may be drawn from the peer-reviewed literature, government and non-governmental reports, practice guidelines and other sources as appropriate.
- Have the reading list reviewed and approved by the dissertation committee. Committee members may choose to add/delete various readings from the list.

Once the initial reading list is finalized, the student may enroll in the DrPH Directed Reading course and the student will be expected to complete an annotated bibliography of the full reading list within the designated time span (i.e., one or two semesters as described above). The final reading list should include approximately 75-100 readings. The written comprehensive exams will take place upon completion of the directed reading. More detailed guidelines and product template for the directed reading can be found here: <https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

Dissertation

Students will complete 9 dissertation credits, during which time they prepare and defend their dissertation proposal, carry-out the work required of their dissertation, and complete and defend their dissertation.

Application for Admission to Candidacy

It is expected that, for full-time students, formal coursework will take approximately 2-3 years to complete. In the epidemiology focus area, students typically take the preliminary examination at

the end of year 1. For CBH and EOH, there is no preliminary examination. As students complete required coursework and practicum hours, they will advance towards independent research for their dissertation. Once a minimum of 32 credits hours is completed students may file an Application for Admission to Candidacy. The Application for Admission to Candidacy form must be submitted and approved prior to taking both the written and oral comprehensive exams.

Submitting the application for admission to candidacy and the Request for Scheduling Exam forms can take place concurrently. Both forms can be found online and should be completed and returned to the Office of Academic Affairs.

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

All candidates are required to take both written and oral comprehensive exams (see Written and Oral Comprehensive Exams section below). Written comprehensive exams take place prior to the oral comprehensive exam.

Dissertation Committee

Each student will form a 5-member dissertation committee to guide their progression through the directed reading, written comprehensive examination, dissertation proposal, oral comprehensive examination, conduct of their dissertation, and completion and defense of the dissertation. The committee chair must have a primary faculty appointment from the focus area department. The student's main mentor must have a primary or secondary appointment at the Colorado School of Public Health. The mentor may not be the Chair of the dissertation committee. In addition, the committee as a whole must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. Two members must be primary faculty in the Focus Area department.
2. One member must be a member of the faculty at CU Denver/Anschutz not in the student's department, with appropriate relevant expertise. Examples include faculty in another ColoradoSPH department, School of Medicine, or other schools at CU Anschutz or CU Denver.
3. One member must be from the practice community.

Individuals can serve on committees if they are affiliated faculty or have a PhD or equivalent in the related area of study. The Committee Chair and the Program Director must complete a Committee Membership form that designates committee membership and is signed. The form must be submitted to and approved by the Program Director prior to beginning the Directed Reading. The Committee Membership form can be found at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

Criteria Considerations for Community Practice Member

When selecting a member from the Community, be mindful that the individual is:

- Able to assure that the dissertation focus is relevant to public health practice;
- Entrenched in practice and can mentor and guide on how dissertation research may be applied in practice;
- In a position of leadership that can help the student with professional connections;

- Able to advise on directed readings and selective courses to assure the student has the broad background needed for a leadership position in practice, and;
- Knowledgeable of evidence-based practices in the student's selected area of study.

Requirements:

- A resume and any additional relevant information that helps the program assess the practice member's potential to provide the guidance intended
- The student's written rationale as to why the practice member has been selected (see Dissertation Committee Member form)
- Approval by the Program Director and the committee chair (see Dissertation Committee Member form)

Written and Oral Comprehensive Exams

Students must be registered (in either coursework or dissertation credits) at the time the written and oral comprehensive exams are conducted. The written comprehensive exam is taken upon completion of the directed reading course. The Application for Admission to Candidacy form must be submitted and approved prior to taking the written comprehensive exam. Each student who passes the written exam will be able to begin preparation for the oral comprehensive exam. Students must submit the Request for Scheduling Exam form complete with required signatures to the Academic Affairs Specialist at least two weeks prior to the date of the oral comprehensive exam. The form is available at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

Written Comprehensive Exam

Upon completion of the directed reading course and submission of the Application for Admission to Candidacy form, students may take their written comprehensive exam. The student will have 2 weeks to provide written answers. It is expected that the student spends the equivalent of one work week of time completing the written comprehensive exam. Two weeks of time should be granted to allow the student flexibility to accommodate other professional and personal obligations while completing the exam.

The exam will include 3-5 essay questions written by the dissertation committee that incorporate DrPH competencies (both general and focus area specific) and the areas covered in the student's Directed Reading. Responses are expected to be in-depth with citations and may be of publishable quality (such as a literature synthesis). The complete written response should be approximately 20-30 single-spaced pages for CBH and EOH students, and a maximum of 20 pages for EPI students, due to their also taking the preliminary exam to assess their analytic ability. The committee will grade (pass/pass with conditions/fail) the written exam and submit the final grade to the Program Director. Each student who passes the written exam will be able to begin preparation for the oral comprehensive exam.

Oral Comprehensive Exam

Following completion of the written comprehensive exam and the written dissertation proposal, students will present their dissertation proposal in an oral examination. The oral comprehensive examination may include questions that cover the student's focus area, directed reading and dissertation proposal. The examination will include a detailed review and discussion of the proposed dissertation. Students should provide all committee members a final copy of the dissertation proposal at least two weeks prior to the oral comprehensive exam. During the oral comprehensive exam, students

should plan to give a 30–40-minute presentation highlighting the key components of their dissertation proposal. The written and oral dissertation proposal should include identification of at least two core and one focus area-specific competencies that they will address in their dissertation. After this presentation, allow up to two additional hours for committee feedback and questions. Once the committee has had all of their questions answered the student will be asked to leave while the committee deliberates and then invited back once a decision has been reached. All members of the committee must be present during the exam.

Below is a list of the possible outcomes for each of the comprehensive exams:

Pass – The majority of the members of the committee vote in the affirmative.

Pass with conditions – If a student receives a Conditional Pass, the examining committee must clearly define the requirements for the student to receive an unconditional passing grade, and these requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of the committee within 4 months. Failure to satisfy these conditions will result in failure of the examination.

Fail – The majority of the members of the committee do not vote in the affirmative. In this event, the student is subject to immediate dismissal from the program. At the program's discretion, the student may be allowed to retake the examination once. The retake will be in a format designated by the committee and must be completed within 6 months.

Public Health Practice Dissertation

The Public Health Practice Dissertation (referred to as *the dissertation*, throughout this document) will be of an applied nature and must demonstrate the student's public health leadership and ability to advance policies, programs or systems relevant to a contemporary public health issue. The student is expected to examine and analyze a problem in public health practice that has readily identifiable beneficiaries and constituents. The student is strongly encouraged to use their field-based practicum experience to ground their work in a real-world problem. The dissertation committee will work with the student to identify appropriate areas of investigation. The project will involve a written product that comprehensively addresses, generates, and/or interprets and evaluates knowledge applicable to public health practice.

The written dissertation document may be one of several forms depending on the nature of the work but should be of publishable quality and must demonstrate synthesis of core and focus area-specific competencies. Students have broad latitude to define the content of the dissertation and each chapter (e.g., description of exposures across demographic groups, case studies, policy analysis), working in consultation with their committee. However, at a minimum, the dissertation must include

- Three "main" chapters, plus introduction and conclusion chapters
- At least one "main" chapter must be of publishable quality for a peer-reviewed journal
- At least one chapter must address the generalizability of the work to public health practice. For example, a student may have two research-focused chapters and a third focusing on what their research findings and other relevant work mean for public health policy, programs or systems. Another example: student conducting case studies and/or program evaluations must include a chapter that addresses the generalizability of the work beyond the specific context of study.

- Identification of at least two core and one focus area-specific competency that they have addressed in their dissertation. Attainment of these competencies will be formally evaluated by their dissertation committee during the dissertation defense.

The dissertation may include products such as interactive data visualizations, educational videos, and other formats as appropriate to advance public health practice on the area of focus.

While the students may conduct an in-depth analysis of a particular program or organization, the final work must go beyond a case study or program evaluation and address the generalizability of the work to other contexts. Additionally, while the student may choose to include one or more chapters that are centered around hypothesis-driven research, at least one chapter must focus on the application of the work to public health practice.

The dissertation will be defended publicly and must be approved by the dissertation committee before the degree of DrPH is conferred.

Final Public Health Practice Dissertation Defense

The examination committee will conduct a final examination of the dissertation orally. Students should submit the Request for Scheduling Exam form to the Academic Affairs Specialist at least 2 weeks in advance to allow time to have a room scheduled and an announcement circulated to the public. Students should provide all committee members a final copy of the dissertation at least two weeks prior to the scheduled defense. During the defense, students will provide a 30–45-minute presentation highlighting the key components of their dissertation, including how they synthesized their identified competencies into the final products. After this presentation, allow up to 2 additional hours for the public and committee members to ask questions and provide feedback. Once the committee has had all of their questions answered the student will be asked to leave while the committee deliberates and then invited back once a decision has been reached. All members of the committee must be present during the exam.

Below is a list of the possible outcomes for the defense:

Pass – Affirmative votes by a majority of the committee members signifying that the candidate has met the dissertation requirement including the synthesis of the identified competencies. The committee may still request changes to the dissertation document, but these should be minimal.

Pass with conditions – A majority of committee members agree that the candidate will pass the dissertation requirement with additional work on the thesis that can be completed within a set timeline. These conditions will be specified and must be satisfied within 60 days of the defense.

Fail – A majority of the committee do not vote in the affirmative. If a student fails the examination, s/he may not continue in the program.

As students prepare dissertation-related products, they may use generative artificial intelligence as a resource, but all usage must adhere to the following guidelines:

<https://graduateschool.cuanschutz.edu/forms-resources/generative-ai-guidance>. Students must complete the form 'Generative Artificial Intelligence Use Statement for Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Dissertation-related Products, University of Colorado School of Public Health' for each of the four dissertation products (Directed Reading, Written Comprehensive Exam, Dissertation proposal document and presentation for the Oral Comprehensive exam, Final Dissertation document and presentation of the Final Oral Defense) at the time of submission of that product. The form is available at: <https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

DrPH Dissertation Credit Registration

DrPH students must register for a total of 9 (semester) ColoradoSPH dissertation credit hours to complete the requirements of the degree. Students may register for a maximum of 9 hours of dissertation credit in any one semester. Upon approval of the Director, up to six dissertation credits may be taken prior to completion of the oral comprehensive exam. Once a student has completed the required 9 dissertation credits, they need to enroll for only one credit in each Fall and Spring semester until a successful defense of their dissertation. Students must be registered for the semester in which they undertake an examination or a dissertation defense, therefore if students elect to defend their thesis in the summer semester they must register for that semester.

Some students who receive a stipend may have to register for 5 credit hours to ensure their status as full-time students and ensure that retirement contributions are not withheld from their stipend. International students who register for only one credit in a semester and who need to maintain their status on an F-1 or J-1 visa may need to request that their academic advisor complete a "Less Than Full-Time Enrollment" form that allows foreign students to be less than full time and still in valid status. Students who are unable to register for these minimum credits because of extenuating personal circumstances should apply for a leave of absence.

Students must maintain continuous enrollment (enrollment in at least one credit hour in each fall and spring semester) until they have completed the program. A student (who is not on a leave of absence) who fails to register continuously in a given academic year (fall and spring semesters) for dissertation credit hours after passing the comprehensive examination may, at the discretion of the Program Director, be required to retake and pass the examination in order to regain status as a student in "good standing" in the DrPH Program.

A grade of "In Progress" (IP) will be assigned for dissertation credits taken in all semesters until the final approved dissertation is submitted. The Office of Academic Affairs will then obtain the dissertation grade from the dissertation committee chair, and all IPs then will be changed to this final grade.

Timetable for Completion

The DrPH degree is designed to be completed within 4-5 years at full-time effort. Upon entering the DrPH program, students will have a maximum of 4 years to pass the written comprehensive exam and must complete the dissertation and defense of the dissertation within 7 years of entering the program. Students who fail to complete the degree in this seven (7) year period are subject to termination from

the program upon the recommendation of the Program Director. For a student to continue beyond the prescribed time limit the student must petition the Program Director for an extension on the Request for Extension of Time Limit form and include 1) reasons why the student believes he/she should be allowed to continue in the program and 2) an anticipated timeline for completion of the degree.

Normally, extensions for time to degree are for one year or less, but under rare circumstances, a second extension may be requested.

Departmental Copy of Dissertation

The Program requires that an electronic copy of the dissertation be provided to the DrPH program director and the Academic Affairs Specialist by the stated deadline for the semester of graduation, usually two weeks before the end of each semester. The student is also required to submit the final dissertation to the national database ProQuest by the same deadline date for the semester of graduation. The ProQuest submission site for the Colorado School of Public Health can be found at: <http://www.etdadmin.com/ucdenverph>.

Graduate School Deadlines Followed by the DrPH

Graduate School Calendar and Deadlines also followed by the DrPH are: submitting application for graduation through the UCDAccess Student portal; submitting requests for examination forms; final dissertation defense dates; submitting final dissertation to ProQuest and program. Please refer to the graduate school graduation deadlines calendar for the year of your graduation at:

<https://graduateschool.ucdenver.edu/forms-resources/resources>

Those listed above are the only graduate school deadlines that apply to the DrPH Program. For all other deadlines, please reference the ColoradoSPH academic calendar.

Program Process

Order of Occurrence

1	Form committee
2	Obtain committee approval of directed reading list
3	Complete directed reading
4	Begin drafting dissertation proposal
5	Submit application for admission to candidacy
6	Submit request to schedule exam form 2 weeks prior to written comprehensive examination date
7	Take written comprehensive examination
8	Submit dissertation proposal to dissertation committee AND submit request to schedule exam form at least 2 weeks prior to oral comprehensive examination date
9	Take oral comprehensive examination
10	Conduct dissertation
11	Submit dissertation to dissertation committee AND request to schedule exam form 2 weeks prior to final examination date
12	Take final examination
13	Submit final, approved dissertation to the DrPH Program Director and Proquest

Continuous Enrollment Policies

Students are required to begin coursework during the semester for which they are initially accepted. Failure to begin classes during the initial semester of acceptance will result in the withdrawal of the student's admission status and the student will need to reapply to the program during a subsequent admission cycle to be reviewed for re-admittance.

Students have a maximum of seven years to complete the DrPH program, and must maintain continuous enrollment in the program from matriculation to completion. Continuous enrollment requires that a student enroll in at least one credit hour each fall and spring semester until completion of the program.

For students who have extenuating circumstances and are unable to meet the continuous enrollment requirement, a formal leave of absence (up to one year) may be requested through the Office of Academic and Student Affairs. ***Any student who fails to meet this continuous enrollment requirement (fall and spring), and who has not been approved for a formal leave of absence, will be automatically withdrawn from the program after more than one year of inactivity and will need to reapply to be reviewed for re-admission into the program.***

Transfer Credits

Graduate work of high quality done in an accredited graduate program and within the time limit may be accepted, provided it is reviewed and recommended by your program and approved by the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs. Transfer credit is defined as any graduate level credit earned at another accredited institution, credits earned within the ColoradoSPH or CU system, or credits earned as a non-degree student within the CU system. This includes credit taken as part of an earned Master's degree. Core public health coursework taken as part of an MPH degree or as co-requisites required for admission into the program will not be recognized or considered for transfer.

Number of Hours That May be Transferred

With approval from the DrPH Program Director and the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs, up to 18 credits of prior graduate coursework may be transferred and applied to the DrPH degree at ColoradoSPH. No more than 8 credits of non-degree coursework (graduate coursework taken outside a specific graduate program) can be transferred as part of this 18 total.

Time Limit and Time Frame for Transfers

All work accepted for transfer must have been taken within a five-year time limit or be validated by special examination by the DrPH Program Director and, at their discretion, reviewed by appropriate faculty in the course content area. Transfer credit will not be accepted to apply toward the doctoral requirements until a student has established a satisfactory record in residence in the program of at least one semester. Such credit must be transferred before a student makes application for admission to candidacy for the degree.

Effect on Residence

Such transfer will not reduce the residence requirement at this University, but it may reduce the amount of work to be done in formal courses.

Requirements of Transferred Courses

1. Be graduate level (MS/MA/MPH or PhD/DrPH) from an accredited University
2. Have a letter grade and a grade of "B" or higher
3. Not have been applied toward an undergraduate degree or another graduate degree on the same level (e.g., PhD or DrPH)
4. Be validated by the program director to ensure that the courses were taken within a time frame such that their content is considered "current", usually within five years
5. Be transferred prior to the term in which the comprehensive examination is taken
6. Correspondence work is not recognized

Eligibility to Transfer Courses

Before courses can be considered for transfer, the student must have an overall grade point average of 3.00 in all courses taken at the University of Colorado in the Colorado School of Public Health and have completed at least one term in residence after official matriculation.

Transfer Procedures

After reviewing details of courses to be considered for transfer with the DrPH Program Director, the following steps should be taken:

1. Obtain and complete a Transfer of Credit form from the Office of Academic Affairs (<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>) Obtain the approval of the advisor and the Program Director. Usually this will require providing the course syllabus and student products from the course (e.g., exams or course papers).
2. Return the signed form, along with an original transcript to the Office of Academic Affairs at least one term prior to the anticipated comprehensive examination. Courses may not be transferred in during the term of the comprehensive examination.
3. The Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs will approve or disapprove the request. If approved, the form will be processed for inclusion on the student's official transcript.

Courses from inside the CU system as a non-degree student need only be included with the coursework listed on the Application for Admission to Candidacy. Approval of the application serves as approval of the transferred courses.

Graduation/Convocation

Paperwork

Students are required to complete the DrPH Application for Graduation by the published deadline for the semester in which they intend to complete degree requirements (see the Academic Calendar for specific deadline dates). The DrPH Program Director and the Office of Academic Affairs approve the completed application. The Graduation Application can be found at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students/academic-forms>

Additionally, students must apply for a diploma for their intended semester of graduation through the UCDAccess Portal by the specified deadlines.

Ceremonies

A commencement ceremony is held twice a year in May and December for the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. All graduates for that academic year are invited to attend. In addition, the School offers a separate Convocation ceremony in May for ColoradoSPH graduates. The following Summer's graduates are invited to participate in the May ColoradoSPH Convocation.

Official regalia must be worn to participate in these ceremonies. Additional details will be posted on the website and emailed to students prior to the event.

Diplomas

Diplomas are mailed from the Anschutz Campus Registrar's office 8-10 weeks after final grades are posted and degrees are awarded. Students will be notified via email when diplomas are available.

Community & Behavioral Health Program Focus Area

The DrPH Program in Community and Behavioral Health is designed to develop public health leaders who are skilled in the development, implementation, and evaluation of theory and evidence-based programs that contribute to health and wellness. "Community" is interpreted broadly and can include neighborhoods, schools, worksites, towns, cities, regions, nations, or larger geographic areas. In addition to a strong knowledge base in social and behavioral theory and evidence, graduates will have strong research skills to facilitate their contributions to the body of evidence linking social and behavioral factors to health and to aid them in developing sound health promotion policy.

Admissions Requirements

In addition to the general admissions requirements for the DrPH program, the Focus Area in Community and Behavioral Health requires the following:

MPH in behavioral/social sciences/health education or equivalent CEPH-accredited program that includes coursework in the 5 core disciplines of public health and the four Community and Behavioral Health core courses (co-requisites CBHS 6611, 6612, 6613, and 6624).

If the applicant does not meet these requirements, they will need to take, at a minimum, EPID 6630, PUBH 6600, and EHOH 6601, as well as the four Community and Behavioral Health Core Courses (CBHS 6611, 6612, 6613, and 6624) once they matriculate into the program. The program director may also require a student without a prior MPH to complete additional pre-requisite or co-requisite coursework, based on the student's educational background. Co-requisite credits are in addition to the 55 credits required for the DrPH degree.

DrPH Community and Behavioral Health Coursework

DrPH students in the Community and Behavioral Health Focus Area will follow the curriculum structure outlined for all DrPH students. The 12 hours of credit in the CBH Focus Area will include the following:

CBHS 7670 Advanced Seminar – 3 credits

This course will address theory and practice at a level beyond that covered in CBH Master's level courses. Students will acquire advanced skills in developing, testing, and applying health behavior theory to public health problems. Students are encouraged to enroll in this seminar in their first year of study.

CBHS 7637 Doctoral Applied Quantitative Analysis for Community Health Science - 3 credits

This course is designed to create competency in database management and common univariate, bivariate and multi-variable statistical analyses used in community health science. Emphasis will be placed on understanding how to prepare data to be analyzed and on being able to run and interpret statistical techniques using SPSS.

CBHS 7638 Advanced Qualitative Research Methods – 3 credits

The course provides advanced graduate students in public health instruction in advanced qualitative methodologies and methods, and training in collection, analyzing, interpreting and writing qualitative research.

CBHS 7010 Quantitative Methods in Community Health – 3 credits

This course covers statistical approaches commonly used in behavioral sciences research, including reliability analysis, exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis, path analysis, structural equation modeling, and advance modeling procedures. Students will analyze data using statistical software, interpret results, and write summaries of findings.

Selective Credit Hours – 12 credits, at least 6 of which must be doctoral level

Selective Credit Hours will build the student’s specific area of expertise, leading to the comprehensive exams and dissertation.. See DrPH General Requirements above for further information.

Program Plan of Study for DrPH in CBH

Below is an example of DrPH in CBH course sequencing for full time students carrying an average of 12 credit hours per semester and completing the degree in four years.

Fall Semester Year 1	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Advanced Qualitative Research Methods	CBHS 7638	3
CBH Advanced Seminar	CBHS 7670	3
Selective		3
Total credits		10

Spring Semester Year 1	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Doctoral Applied Quantitative Analysis for Community Health Science	CBHS 7637	3
Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning & Management: Theory and Practice	HSMP 7603	3
(Selective)		3
Total credits		10

Summer Semester Year 1	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar in Leadership	CBHS 7020	3
Practicum	PUBH 6850	2
Total credits		5

Fall Semester Year 2	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Quantitative Methods in Community Health	CBHS 7010	3
Developing a Research Grant	EPID 7912	3
Practicum		2
Total credits		9

Spring Semester Year 2	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact	EHOH 7405	3
Directed Reading	CBHS 7030	1
(Selectives)		6
Total credits		11

Summer Year 2		
Directed Readings		1
Written and Oral Comprehensive Exams		

Fall Year 3		Credit
Dissertation	CBHS 8991	2

Spring Year 3		Credit
Dissertation	CBHS 8991	2

Fall Year 4		Credit
Dissertation	CBHS 8991	2

Spring Year 4		Credit
Dissertation	CBHS 8991	2

Summer Year 4		Credit
Dissertation	CBHS 8991	1

DrPH CBH Program Requirements/Plan of Study

Credits		Course	Description	Semester	Grade
Total	Sub	Number			
4	DrPH Seminar				
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #1		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #2		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #3		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #4		
12	CBHS Focus Area				
	3	CBHS 7670	CBH Advanced Seminar		
	3	CBHS 7638	Advanced Qualitative Research Methods		
	3	CBHS 7637	Doctoral Applied Quantitative Analysis for Community Health Science		
	3	CBHS 7010	Quantitative Methods in Community Hlth		
3	Leadership				
	3	CBHS 7020	DrPH Seminar in Leadership		
3	Management				
	3	HSMP 7603	Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning & Management: Theory and Practice		
3	Communications				
	3	EHOH7405	Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact		
3	Proposal Writing				
	3	EPID 7912	Developing A Research Grant		
4	Practicum				
	4	PUBH 6850	DrPH Practicum		
2	Directed Reading				
	2	CBHS 7030	DrPH Directed Reading		
12	Selectives (at least 6 at the doctoral level)				
9	Dissertation				
		CBHS 8991			

Environmental and Occupational Health Program Focus Area

The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Program in Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH) is designed to develop public health leaders who are skilled in the identification, evaluation and control of environmental and occupational stressors and promotion of health and wellness. Within EOH "environment" is broadly interpreted and can include neighborhoods, worksites, cities, regions, nations, and the planet, and include chemical, physical, and biological stressors. Areas of specialization in EOH include (but are not limited to): environmental justice; the built environment; exposure, toxicology and risk; occupational health and wellness; and climate and health. Graduates will develop a strong knowledge base in the environmental and occupational health sciences and will be prepared to hold leadership positions in public health practice at the local, state or national level and in academia.

Admissions Requirements

In addition to the general admissions requirements for the DrPH program, the focus area in Environmental and Occupational Health (referred to as EOH) requires an MPH or MS in environmental or occupational health, or a related discipline, from a CEPH-accredited program. If the applicant does not meet this requirement, they will need to take, at a minimum, EPID 6630, PUBH 6600, and EHOH 6601 once they matriculate into the program. The program director may also require the student to complete additional pre-requisite or co-requisite coursework, based on the student's educational background. Co-requisite credits are in addition to the 55 credits required for the DrPH degree.

DrPH Environmental and Occupational Health Coursework

DrPH students in the EOH Focus Area will follow the curriculum structure outlined for all DrPH students. The 13 hours of credit in the focus area will include the following:

Advanced Methods in Environmental & Occupational Health – 3 credits

Students will take EHOH 7631 which will cover advanced methods in environmental and occupational health, including survey design, environmental sampling, risk assessment, biomarkers, exposure assessment and policy analysis.

Advanced Field Methods in Environmental & Occupational Health – 1 credit

Students will take EHOH 7632, which will build on the Advanced Methods in EOH course and provide practical field and laboratory applications. Field investigations will include sampling design, sample collection (e.g. air, water, soil, and questionnaire), data collection, management and interpretation.

Research Methods: Climate, Disaster and Humanitarian Perspectives – 3 credits

Students will take EHOH7403, which covers the design and evaluation of interventions in environmental and occupational health settings using mixed methods approaches. The course focuses on intervention research related to climate change, disaster and humanitarian settings, to ground the concepts in real-world applications.

Biostatistical Methods I and Biostatistical Methods II – 6 credits

Students will take BIOS 6611 and BIOS 6612 or equivalent to acquire advanced biostatistical skills. These courses cover applied statistics including probability, descriptive, parametric and non-parametric methods for one and two sample estimation/testing, linear modeling and

analysis of variance. Logistic and Poisson regression, survival analysis and methods for correlated and hierarchical data are also covered. With permission of the student's advisor and the EOH DrPH director, advanced analytical coursework may be substituted for BIOS 6612 such as latent variable methods, structural equation modeling, or longitudinal data analysis.

Selective Credit Hours – 11 credits

Selective Credit Hours will build the student's specific area of expertise, leading to the qualifying exams and dissertation. At least 5 of the 11 selective credit hours must be doctoral level. Examples of areas of specialization for EOH include (but are not limited to) the following: built environment, climate change and health, environmental justice, worksite wellness, total worker health, exposure assessment, and toxicology. Courses must be selected in consultation with the student's advisor.

Program Plan of Study for DrPH in EOH

Below is an example schedule for a DrPH in EOH for full time students completing the degree in four years.

Fall Semester Year 1	Course #	Credits
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Advanced Methods in EOH	EHOH 7631	3
Biostatistical Methods I	BIOS 6611	3
Selective		3
	<i>Total credits</i>	10
Spring Semester Year 1		
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Advanced Field Methods in EOH	EHOH 7632	1
Biostatistical Methods II	BIOS 6612	3
Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact	EHOH 7405	3
Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning and Management	HSMP 7603	3
	<i>Total credits</i>	11
Summer Semester Year 1		
Research methods: Climate, Disaster and Humanitarian Perspectives	EHOH 7403	3
DrPH Seminary in Leadership	CBHS 7020	3
	<i>Total credits</i>	6
Fall Semester Year 2	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Developing a Research Grant	EPID 7912	3
Selective		3
	<i>Total credits</i>	7

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Spring Semester Year 2	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Selective		5
Practicum	PUBH 6850	4
Directed Reading	EHOH 7030	2
	<i>Total credits</i>	12
Summer Year 2		
Written Comprehensive Exams		
Dissertation	EHOH 8991	1
	<i>Total credits</i>	1
Fall Year 3		
Oral Comprehensive Exams		2
Spring Year 3		Credit
Dissertation	EHOH 8991	2
Fall Year 4		Credit
Dissertation	EHOH 8991	2
Spring Year 4		Credit
Dissertation	EHOH 8991	2

DrPH EOH Program Requirements/Program of Study

Credits		Course	Description	Semester	Grade
Total	Sub	Number			
4	DrPH Seminar				
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #1		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #2		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #3		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #4		
13	EOH Focus Area Required Courses				
	3	EHOH 7631	Advanced Methods in EOH		
	1	EHOH7632	Advanced Field Methods in EOH		
	3	EHOH 7403	Research methods: Climate, Disaster and Humanitarian Perspectives		
	3	BIOS 6611	Biostatistical Methods I		
	3	BIOS 6612	Biostatistical Methods II		
3	Leadership				
	3	CBHS 7020	DrPH Seminar in Leadership		
3	Management				
	3	HSMP 7603	Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning and Management		
3	Communication				
	3	EHOH 7405	Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact		
3	Proposal Writing				
	3	EPID 7912	Developing A Research Grant		
4	Practicum				
	4	PUBH 6850	DrPH Practicum		
2	Directed Reading				
	2	EHOH 7030	DrPH Directed Reading		
11	Selectives				
9	Dissertation				
		EHOH 8991			

Epidemiology Program Focus Area

The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Program in Epidemiology is designed to develop public health leaders who are skilled at identifying the factors that affect the health of a population and developing, implementing and evaluating disease control and prevention strategies to improve public health. Areas of specialization in epidemiology include (but are not limited to) health data and information systems, chronic disease prevention and control, communicable disease prevention and control and injury prevention. Graduates will be prepared to hold leadership positions in public health practice at the local, state or national level and in academia.

Admissions Requirements

At least one semester of calculus is a pre-requisite that must be completed prior to admission. In addition to the general admissions requirements for the DrPH program, the focus area in Epidemiology requires an MPH or MS in epidemiology or a related discipline from a CEPH- accredited program. If the applicant does not meet this requirement, they will need to take, at a minimum, EPID 6630, PUBH 6600, and EHOH 6601 once they matriculate into the program. The program director may also require the student to complete additional pre-requisite coursework, based on the student's educational background. These credits are in addition to the 55 credits required for the DrPH degree.

DrPH Epidemiology Coursework

DrPH students in the Epidemiology Focus Area will follow the curriculum structure outlined for all DrPH students. The 15 hours of credit in the Epidemiology Focus Area will include:

Advanced Epidemiology 1 – 3 credits

EPID 7631 is the first of two advanced courses in epidemiology that covers the conduct and interpretation of epidemiologic studies at a level beyond that covered in EPID Master's level courses. The course is offered in the fall semester.

Advanced Epidemiology 2 – 3 credits

EPID 7632 is the second of two advanced courses in Epidemiology that covers the conduct and interpretation of epidemiologic studies at a level beyond that covered in EPID Master's level courses. The course is offered in the spring semester.

Biostatistical Methods I and Biostatistical Methods II – 6 credits

BIOS 6611 and BIOS 6612 or equivalent applied statistics covering probability, descriptive, parametric and non-parametric methods for one and two sample estimation/testing, linear modeling and analysis of variance. Logistic and Poisson regression, survival analysis and methods for correlated and hierarchical data are also covered. BIOS 6611 is offered in the fall semester, and BIOS 6612 is offered in the spring semester.

Research Methods with Secondary Data Sets – 3 credits

EPID 7605 covers a broad range of secondary data sources including those designed for health and medical surveillance (e.g., BRFSS, NHIS, SEER, NACCHO Profiles, MEPS) and those derived from practice (e.g., Medicaid, PharMetrics, HEDIS, HCUP). Coursework covers identification and evaluation of secondary data sets and principles and methods for research design and analysis using secondary

data. Each student will develop a research question and study design that can be informed with secondary data, establish inclusion/exclusion criteria, describe study population, determine precision and/or power, and assess measurement validity. It is recommended that students link the class project with their chosen area of specialization. This course is offered spring semester.

Selective Credit Hours – 9 credits, 3 of which must be from doctoral-level courses

Selective Credit Hours will build the student's specific area of expertise, leading to the comprehensive exams and dissertation. Examples of areas of specialization for Epidemiology include (but are not limited to) the following: health data and information systems, chronic disease prevention and control, communicable disease prevention and control, food safety, injury prevention, and newborn screening. See DrPH General Requirements above for further information.

Preliminary Exam

In addition to requirements listed above for the DrPH, EPI students will take the preliminary exam required of both PhD and DrPH students in epidemiology at the end of the first year and after completion of the 15 credit hours of the epidemiology focus area (described above). Admitted students who have already taken the required first-year coursework prior to their first year in the doctoral program may be permitted to take the exam, at the discretion of the Program Director. Transfer students from non-Epidemiology Departments at the ColoradoSPH or from external epidemiology PhD programs are not exempted from this requirement, even if they passed a preliminary exam in their original program. Requests to substitute a prior preliminary exam will be evaluated and determined by the Program Director.

The purpose of the written preliminary exam is to demonstrate competence in epidemiology and biostatistics methods. This exam is taken at the end of the first year of study and should be successfully completed before starting the dissertation. Students who fail any section of the preliminary exam will be allowed to retake that section of the exam once. Failure of any given section of the exam twice will result in dismissal from the DrPH program.

Epidemiology Discussion Group / Journal Club

Epidemiology DrPH students are required to attend the weekly Epidemiology Discussion Group / Journal club that meets in person during the school year. In person attendance is expected, but virtual attendance may be temporarily approved for extenuating circumstances. Students in their second year of study or higher will be required to present once per year at the Epidemiology Discussion Group / Journal club.

Program Plan of Study for DrPH in Epidemiology

Below is an example of DrPH in EPI course sequencing for full time students completing the degree in four years.

Fall Semester Year 1	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Advanced Epidemiology I	EPID 7631	3
Biostatistical Methods I	BIOS 6611	3
Selective		3

Spring Semester Year 1	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Research Methods with Secondary Data Sources	EPID 7605	3
Advanced Epidemiology II	EPID 7632	3
Biostatistical Methods II	BIOS 6612	3

Summer Semester Year 1	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar in Leadership	CBHS 7020	3
Selective		3
Preliminary Exam		

Fall Semester Year 2	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Selective	PUBH 6850	3

Spring Semester Year 2	Course #	Credit
DrPH Seminar	PUBH 6842	1
Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning and Management (even yrs)	HSMP 7603	3
Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact (odd yrs)	EHOH 7405	3
Practicum	PUBH 6850	2

Summer Year 2	Course #	Credit
Practicum	PUBH 6850	2

Fall Year 3	Course #	Credit
Developing a Research Grant	EPID 7912	3
Directed Reading	EPID 7030	2

Spring Year 3	Course #	Credit
Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning and Management (even yrs)	HSMP 7603	3
Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact (odd yrs)	EHOH 7405	3
Dissertation	EPID 8991	2
Written and Oral Comprehensive Exams		

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Fall Year 4	Course #	Credit
Dissertation	EPID 8991	2

Spring Year 4	Course #	Credit
Dissertation	EPID 8991	2

Fall Year 5	Course #	Credit
Dissertation	EPID 8991	2

Spring Year 5	Course #	Credit
Dissertation	EPID 8991	1

DrPH EPID Program Requirements/Plan of Study

Credits		Course	Description	Semester	Grade
Total	Sub	Number			
4	DrPH Seminar				
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #1		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #2		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #3		
	1	PUBH 6842	DrPH Seminar #4		
15	EPID Focus Area Required Courses				
	3	EPID 7631	Advanced Epidemiology I		
	3	EPID 7632	Advanced Epidemiology II		
	3	BIOS 6611	Biostatistical Methods I		
	3	BIOS 6612	Biostatistical Methods II		
	3	EPID 7605	Research Methods/Secondary Data		
3	Leadership				
	3	CBHS 7020	DrPH Seminar in Leadership		
3	Management				
	3	HSMP 7603	Advanced Public Health Strategic Planning and Management		
3	Communication				
	3	EHOH 7405	Advanced Communication Skills for Public Health Impact		
3	Proposal Writing				
	3	EPID 7912	Developing A Research Grant		
4	Practicum				
	4	PUBH 6850	DrPH Practicum		
2	Directed Reading				
	2	EPID 7030	DrPH Directed Reading		
9	Selectives (3 credits must be from doctoral level courses)				

9	Dissertation				
	EPID 8991				

Key Contacts

CU Anschutz Medical Campus Program/Concentration Directors

Alex Kaizer, PhD
Concentration Director
Applied Biostatistics, MPH
Eleanor.Cotton@cuanschutz.edu

Carsten Görg, PhD
Program Co-Director
Biostatistics, MS & PhD
Carsten.Goerg@cuanschutz.edu

Angela Brega, PhD
Concentration Director
Community & Behavioral Health, MPH
Angela.Brega@cuanschutz.edu

Betsy Risendal, PhD
Program Director
Community and Behavioral Health, DrPH
betsy.risendal@cuanschutz.edu

Charlotte Farewell, PhD
Concentration Director
Population Mental Health & Wellbeing, MPH
Charlotte.farewell@cuanschutz.edu

Alison Bauer, PhD
Concentration Director
Environment, Climate, and Health MPH
Alison.Bauer@cuanschutz.edu

Beth Carlton, PhD
Program Director
Environmental and Occupational Health, DrPH
Elizabeth.Carlton@cuanschutz.edu

Rebecca Conway, PhD
Concentration Director
Epidemiology, MPH
Global Public Health Plus, MPH
Rebecca.Conway@cuanschutz.edu

Department Chairs

David Conti, PhD
Chair, Biostatistics
David.Conti@cuanschutz.edu

Miria Kano, PhD
Interim Chair, Community & Behavioral Health
Miria.Kano@cuanschutz.edu

Randi Johnson, PhD, MPH
Alison Abraham, PhD
Program Co-Directors
Epidemiology MD & PhD
Randi.johnson@cuanschutz.edu
Alison.abraham@cuanschutz.edu

Brandie Wagner, PhD
Program Co-Director
Biostatistics, MS & PhD
Brandie.Wagner@cuanschutz.edu

Molly Lamb, PhD
Program Director
Epidemiology, DrPH
Molly.Lamb@cuanschutz.edu

Cathy Battaglia, PhD, MSHA, RN
Rich Lindrooth, PhD
Program Co-Directors
Health Services Research, MS & PhD
Catherine.battaglia@cuanschutz.edu
Richard.Lindrooth@cuanschutz.edu

Beth McManus, PT, MPH, ScD
Concentration Director
Health Systems, Management & Policy
Beth.McManus@cuanschutz.edu

Mary Dinger, PhD
Concentration Director
Leadership and Public Health, MPH
Mary.Dinger@cuanschutz.edu

Elizabeth Greenwell, Sc.D
Concentration Director
Maternal & Child Health, MPH
Elizabeth.greenwell@cuanschutz.edu

Megan Cherewick, PhD, MPH
Concentration Director
Global Health + Community & Behavioral Health, MPH
Megan.Cherewick@cuanschutz.edu

Beth Carlton, PhD
Chair, Environmental & Occupational Health
Elizabeth.Carlton@cuanschutz.edu

Jill Norris, PhD, MPH
Chair, Epidemiology
Jill.Norris@cuanschutz.edu

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Glen Mays, PhD
Chair, Health Systems, Management & Policy
Glen.Mays@cuanschutz.edu

Office of Academic and Student Affairs

Madiha Abdel-Maksoud, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs
Madiha.Abel-Maksoud@cuanschutz.edu

Becca Rothkopf, MSW
Senior Practice-Based Learning Professional
Rebecca.Rothkopf@cuanschutz.edu

Katherine Brumfield, MA
Career Services Manager
Katherine.Brumfield@cuanschutz.edu

Kalia Nguyen
Student Support Specialist
Kalia.Nguyen@cuanschutz.edu

Laura Hager, MPA
Director of of Admissions and Student Affairs
Laura.Hager@cuanschutz.edu

Derly Santos Maldonado
Admissions Processing Specialist
Derly.santosmaldonado@cuanschutz.edu

Tony Romero, MA
Assistant Director of Evaluation and Accreditation
Tony.Romero@cuanschutz.edu

Brenda Witt
Academic Affairs Program Manager
Brenda.Witt@cuanschutz.edu

General Inquiries:
ColoradoSPH.Admissions@cuanschutz.edu
ColoradoSPH.StudentAffairs@cuanschutz.edu
ColoradoSPH.AcademicAffairs@ucdenver.edu

Colorado State University

Tracy Nelson, PhD, MPH
Director
tracy.nelson@colostate.edu

Erika Lund
Administrative Assistant
Erika.Lund@colostate.edu

Kendra Bigsby, MPH
Assistant Director
Kendra.Bigsby@colostate.edu

Christina Pasana
Academic Support Coordinator
Chirstina.pasana@colostate.edu

University of Northern Colorado

Patricia Valverde, PhD
Director
Patricia.Valverde@unco.edu

Allison DeVries
Assistant to Director
Allison.Devries@unco.edu

ColoradoSPH Student Activities/Events

Student Council

The ColoradoSPH Student Council is our primary student leadership organization. Student Council is involved in planning events and promoting public health in their local communities. Each campus has their own student council, and all three work together on various volunteer and learning opportunities as well as school events. Council members are devoted to serving as representatives of the school, developing relationships with community organizations, and involving students at all three campuses in public health activities. Take charge of your ColoradoSPH experience!

For information regarding Student Council, visit:

[Student Organizations & Programs | Colorado School of Public Health \(cuanschutz.edu\)](#)

Emerging Leaders

A one-day conference for students planned by students. As a participant, you will learn and collaborate among your peers about the chosen theme of the conference. Students can also join the planning team to gain experience planning a conference.

Contact: Katherine Brumfield | Katherine.Brumfield@cuanschutz.edu

National Public Health Week

Get involved on your home campus to help plan for this national event for the ColoradoSPH community. All students will be able to attend events during this week (typically the first week of April) on all three campuses and experience the strengths each has to offer.

For information regarding National Public Health Week visit:

<http://www.nphw.org/>

Involvement in Public Health Organizations

Public health students are encouraged to become involved in state, regional, national, and international organizations by becoming student members, submitting proposals for presentations, and other professional activities. The following is a list of organizations students may consider:

American Public Health Association (APHA)

<http://www.apha.org/>

Colorado Environmental Health Association (CEHA)

<http://www.cephaweb.com/>

Colorado Public Health Association (CPHA)

<http://www.coloradopublichealth.org/>

Colorado Society of Public Health Educators (SOPHE)

<http://www.sophe.org/>

CU Anschutz Medical Campus: Student Services/Programs

Colorado School of Public Health

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/>

Student Resources

Academic calendar, schedule of classes, handbooks, forms, & more:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/resources/for-current-students>

Information Technology

Bldg. 500, 3rd Floor

303.724.4732

Email: ColoradoSPH.studentIT@ucdenver.edu

<https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/office-of-information-technology/get-help>

UCD Access

<https://passport.ucdenver.edu/login.php>

Online Course Access

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus uses a robust online learning system, Canvas.

Online course materials can be accessed at:

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/CUOnline/OnlineCourses/Pages/CourseLogin.aspx>

A student guide to using Canvas can be found at: <http://guides.instructure.com/m/4212>

Registrar Forms

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar/student-resources/forms#tuition>

Registrar's Office

Education 2 North, 3rd Floor

Phone: 303-724-8059

Email: registrar@cuanschutz.edu

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar>

Financial Aid Office

Ed 2 North, 3rd Floor

Phone: 303-724-8039

Email: FinAid@CUAnschutz.edu

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/student-finances/financial-aid>

Bursar's Office

Ed 2 North, 3rd Floor

Phone: 303-724-8032

Email: Bursar@ucdenver.edu

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/student-finances/billing-payments>

Bookstore

The CU Anschutz Bookstore has been operating under more restricted hours with the Covid-19 pandemic. You can always visit the bookstore online. Listed below is the regular, non-pandemic hours and the link to the bookstore online.

Hours: Monday – Thursday (8:30 AM – 3:30 PM) | Friday (9:00 AM – 3:00 PM)

Phone: 303-724-2665 (4-BOOK)

Location: First floor of Ed 2 South.

<https://cuanschutz.bncollege.com/shop/cu-anschutz/home>

Breastfeeding/Chestfeeding Support and Resources

CU Anschutz has designated lactation rooms on campus, listed on the [Anschutz facilities website](#).

UHealth also hosts breastfeeding support groups, on campus and throughout the state, where you can meet other moms, ask questions, and address concerns with a lactation consultant. For more information, visit their page here: <https://www.uhealth.org/services/womens-care/pregnancy-childbirth-newborn-care/breastfeeding-support/>

For more information on all CU lactation support and resources, visit this page:

<https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/equity/support-resources/pregnancy-lactation-2>

Campus Safety

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus is committed to the safety and security of our students, faculty, staff and visitors. When extreme winter weather conditions develop, the university's normal business operations can be affected. Students, faculty, and staff can check local broadcast news media (television and radio) for announcements about closures or schedule adjustments. The university also provides emergency-related information, as appropriate, on a toll-free phone line 1-877-INFO-070 (or 1-877-463-6070); online at <https://www.cuanschutz.edu/police/anschutz-alerts>; and via the Rave emergency notification tool. Students can register for this free text and voice messaging service by clicking the "Get Rave" button on the right side of the aforementioned page.

University Police

12454 E. 19th Place, Bldg. U-09
Phone: 303-724-2000 (main office) | 303-724-4444 (non-emergency)
Email: Police.comment@ucdenver.edu (non-emergency)
<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/police>

Accommodations for Disability: Virtual and In-Class

University of Colorado Anschutz is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical). To ensure access to this class, and program, please contact the Office of Disability, Access, and Inclusion (disabilityaccess@cuanschutz.edu) for disability services to engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations in the classroom and clinical settings.

Accommodations are not provided retroactively. Students are encouraged to register with Disability Resources and Services as soon as they begin their program. The Colorado School of Public Health encourages students to access all resources available through Disability Resources and Services for consistent support and access to their programs. More information can be found online at: <https://www.cuanschutz.edu/offices/office-of-disability-access-and-inclusion>

Office of Student Outreach and Support

The Office of Student Outreach and Support is here to support students who are experiencing difficulties related to mental health, safety concerns, interpersonal conflict, adjusting to college, family emergencies, feelings of isolation, or anything else which may impact their ability to be successful. Case managers collaborate and consult with students, parents, faculty, staff, and other campus resources to best address the needs of each student. Services offered include, but are not limited to, providing intervention and advocacy, on-campus resources and referrals, assistance with medical withdrawals, and navigating the university system, and follow-up services and support. Students can connect with the case manager for ColoradoSPH students, Kelly Tyman, by emailing her directly at kelly.tyman@cuanschutz.edu. For more information or to submit a report, visit: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofColoradoDenver&layout_id=26

Library

The Anschutz Medical Campus Health Sciences Library is located at 12950 East Montview Boulevard, Aurora, CO 80045 directly north of the Fitzsimons Building (previously Building 500). There are extensive online resources available to all students through the library. On-campus library access for students who need it is available via badge access 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. The library remains closed to the public and others do not have a CU Anschutz badge.

For more information on the Library, visit:

<https://library.cuanschutz.edu/about/hours>

Electronic Security ID Badge Office

Students are required to have an electronic security photo ID badge for the safety and protection of all faculty, staff, and students on campus. Additionally, this badge allows you access into buildings after hours, computer labs, library, and parking should a student decide they need a parking pass.

Upon matriculation, the Student Affairs staff issues badge applications for all incoming ColoradoSPH students. In fall 2022, new students will need to submit information for their badges (e.g. a passport-style photo) to the Office of Student Affairs for processing. New students should follow the badging instructions in the Inside ColoradoSPH Canvas course, and may contact the Office of Student Affairs at ColoradoSPH.StudentAffairs@cuanschutz.edu with additional questions. The Student Affairs staff will notify students when they are able to pick up a badge.

If a badge expires and needs to be renewed, students should contact the ColoradoSPH Office of Student Affairs.

Those who already have an ID for the Anschutz campus due to a pre-existing role as faculty or staff on campus do not need to be issued a new student ID.

Primary and Preferred Names

Primary and Preferred Name Changes: Students who wish to use a different name than their legal name while on campus may change their legal name, or register a preferred name, which appears on unofficial transcripts, class, and grade rosters, in Canvas, and some other places as legally allowed. For more information, visit: <https://www.cuanschutz.edu/registrar/student-resources/identity#ac-preferred-name-1>

All-gender restrooms on campus: Maps of all-gender bathrooms on the Anschutz and Denver campuses can be found on the Office of Equity website, visit: <https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/equity/support-resources/all-gender-resources>

CU Anschutz Campus Opportunities

The ColoradoSPH offers students opportunities to attend various public health presentations and events. Schedules can be found on our website at:

<https://coloradosph.cuanschutz.edu/news-and-events/events>

Grand Rounds

Grand Rounds are held throughout the week every month and feature presentations by faculty, preventive medicine residents, and health professionals from the community. A seminar schedule will be posted on the school's website. Students are highly encouraged to attend.

Colorado School of Public Health
2026-2027 Student Handbook

For more information, visit:

<https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/medicine/calendar/grand-rounds>

Lockers

Locker usage on campus is facilitated by Educational Support Services. More information regarding locker usage can be found on their website.

Parking and Transportation

General parking questions: 303-724-2555

After hours: 303-724-4444

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/offices/facilities-management/transportation-parking-maps>

CU Anschutz Student Services

The Office of Campus Student Services' mission is to enhance student life within the University of Colorado Denver at the Anschutz Medical Campus by providing excellence in specific non-academic and academic student services.

Ed 2 North Building, 3rd Floor, Room 3200

Phone: 303-724-2866

Monday- Friday: 8 AM – 6 PM

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/student>

Veteran Student Services

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus is a “Military Friendly” university, committed to providing service men and women with a high-quality education catered to your distinct needs. The OVSS represents Active Duty, Reservist, National Guard, Veteran and VA Dependent students.

Hours: Wed & Thu: 8 AM - 1 PM , 2 PM – 5 PM

Location: Ed 2 North, 3rd Floor, Room P28-3207

Phone: 303-724-9649

<https://www.ucdenver.edu/veterans>

Ombuds Office

The Ombuds Office is a resource available to all members of the University community to provide informal conflict resolution. The Ombuds Office provides a forum for prompt, impartial, and confidential discussion for individuals to review options for informal resolutions of differences. The primary goal of the Ombuds person is to ensure that employees and students receive fair and equitable treatment. The Ombuds Office provides confidential and independent services to the university community. For more information, visit: <https://www1.ucdenver.edu/offices/ombudsoffice>

Ombuds Contact Information:

Location: Building 500, Room 7005C

Phone: 303-724-2950

Melissa Connell | Director CU Anschutz Ombuds Office

Email: melissa.connell@cuanschutz.edu

Lisa Neale | Associate Director CU Anschutz Ombuds Office

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Ombuds Office
Email: lisa.neale@cuanschutz.edu

Student Health Insurance Office

All degree-seeking students enrolled in one or more credit hours must enroll in the School's Student Health Insurance Plan unless they can prove enrollment in another comparable insurance by submitting a selection/waiver form by the deadline date. For more information, visit:

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/student/health-wellness/student-health-insurance>

Location: Ed 2 North, Room 3208

Phone: 303-837-2127 | Email: studentinsurance@cuanschutz.edu

Student Mental Health Services

The **Student Mental Health Service** provides comprehensive and confidential mental health services for all enrolled Anschutz Medical Campus students. Psychiatric issues treated include: depression, anxiety/stress, bipolar disorder, drug and alcohol dependence, eating disorders, marital difficulties, family crises, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Treatment modalities include: individual psychotherapy, couples counseling, and/or medication.

The central number for the Mental Health Service is 303-724-4716. For after-hours, please call Colorado Crisis Services at 1 (844) 493-8255 or Text "TALK" to 38255. You may also go to a local crisis center for evaluation, which can be found on the Colorado Crisis Services website. More information is available at <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/psychiatry/programs/student-resident-mental-health>

Behavioral health services are also offered at the **Campus Health Center**, located within the Anschutz Health and Wellness center. Services provided include: acute stress management; triage, assessment and treatment of disorders such as bipolar disorder, drug, alcohol, or eating disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder, domestic violence, sexual assault, and trauma; individual, couple, family, and group counseling; medication prescription, monitoring, and support; testing for attention and concentration issues; outside referrals.

Providers available: 8 AM to 8 PM (Mon., Tues, & Wed.) and 8 AM to 5 PM (Thurs., Fri.)
To schedule an appointment call 303-724-4716 or email smhservice@ucdenver.edu

The **Phoenix Center at Anschutz** provides free, confidential support services, prevention education, and resource referrals for relationship violence, sexual violence, and stalking. You can call their 24/7 hotline for free and confidential options, emotional support, and resources at (303) 556- CALL (2255). To make an appointment, call (303)724-9120. You can find more information at www.ThePCA.org.

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides one-on-one and small-group assistance to undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students from the Anschutz Medical Campus. In the Center, trained graduate and post-graduate consultants offer help with writing of all kinds, including research essays, proposals, dissertations, capstone projects, C.V.s, manuscript drafts, grants, personal statements, residency applications and more.

Location: Health Sciences Library, Room 1204
Phone: 303-724-4143

Schedule an appointment: <https://ucdenver.mywconline.com/index.php>

For more information, visit: <https://clas.ucdenver.edu/writing-center/>

International Admissions

International Admissions welcomes and assists over 700 international students and accompanying family members representing over 60 countries enrolled in more than 100 degree programs. On this highly diverse campus, students will have many opportunities to engage in exciting curricular, multicultural events, and share perspective in the classroom and beyond. To schedule an appointment with an advisor, students should call 303.315.2382, email iss@ucdenver.edu or visit: <https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/international-affairs>

Identifier	Core (CR) DrPH Competencies
Data & Analysis	
DrPH 1	Explain qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods and policy analysis research and evaluation methods to address health issues at multiple (individual, group, organization, community and population) levels
DrPH 2	Design a qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, policy analysis or evaluation project to address a public health issue
DrPH 3	Explain the use and limitations of surveillance systems and national surveys in assessing, monitoring and evaluating policies and programs and to address a population's health
Leadership, Management & Governance	
DrPH 4	Propose strategies for health improvement and elimination of health inequities by organizing stakeholders, including researchers, practitioners, community leaders and other partners
DrPH 5	Communicate public health science to diverse stakeholders, including individuals at all levels of health literacy, for purposes of influencing behavior and policies
DrPH 6	Integrate knowledge, approaches, methods, values and potential contributions from multiple professions, sectors and systems in addressing public health problems
DrPH 7	Create a strategic plan
DrPH 8	Facilitate shared decision making through negotiation and consensus-building methods
DrPH 9	Create organizational change strategies
DrPH 10	Propose strategies to promote inclusion and equity within public health programs, policies and systems
DrPH 11	Assess one's own strengths and weaknesses in leadership capacities, including cultural proficiency
DrPH 12	Propose human, fiscal and other resources to achieve a strategic goal
DrPH 13	Cultivate new resources and revenue streams to achieve a strategic goal
Policy & Programs	
DrPH 14	Design a system-level intervention to address a public health issue
DrPH 15	Integrate knowledge of cultural values and practices in the design of public health policies and programs
DrPH 16	Integrate scientific information, legal and regulatory approaches, ethical frameworks and varied stakeholder interests in policy development and analysis
DrPH 17	Propose interprofessional and/or intersectoral team approaches to improving public health
Education & Workforce Development	

DrPH 18	Assess an audience's knowledge and learning needs
DrPH 19	Deliver training or educational experiences that promote learning in academic, organizational or community settings
DrPH 20	Use best practice modalities in pedagogical practices

Identifier	DrPH Community and Behavioral Health Focus Area (FA) Competencies
DrPH-CBHS 1	Synthesize health behavior theories, models, frameworks and evidence-based integrative strategies at multiple levels of the socio-ecological model to develop theory-informed conceptual models
DrPH-CBHS 2	Apply multivariable statistical techniques to answer public health research or practice questions.
DrPH CBHS 3	Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of measurement and apply statistical techniques to analyze latent variables.
DrPH CBHS 4	Employ qualitative methods to collect and analyze qualitative data, and critically appraise the role of qualitative research to inform public health issues.
DrPH CBHS 5	Integrate principles of design for dissemination into the development of a public health intervention.

Identifier	DrPH Environmental & Occupational Health Focus Area (FA) Competencies
DrPH-EHOH 1	Critically evaluate toxicological and epidemiological data and explain its role in informing risk-based decision making
DrPH-EHOH 2	Create a plan for a study to evaluate the impacts of an environmental or occupational hazard on human health, that is methodologically rigorous and addresses research ethics.
DrPH-EHOH 3	Create a data collection and management plan for an environmental or occupational health research or surveillance.
DrPH-EHOH 4	Recommend strategies for reducing human exposure to occupational or environmental hazards and improving human health
DrPH-EHOH 5	Analyze the distribution of exposure in a population using appropriate statistical methods.
DrPH-EHOH 6	Identify populations disproportionately impacted by an environmental or occupational hazard.

Identifier	DrPH Epidemiology Focus Area (FA) Competencies
DrPH-EPID 1	Critically evaluate epidemiological study designs and describe the advantages and limitations of each for addressing specific public health problems, and recommend design modifications to strengthen validity.
DrPH-EPID 2	Apply basic ethical and legal principles involved in the collection, management, use and dissemination of epidemiologic data in research or public health practice.
DrPH-EPID 3	Select and apply appropriate epidemiologic study design and analysis methods when using secondary data sources, such as surveillance, national surveys, and medical record data, to address public health practice needs.
DrPH-EPID 4	Demonstrate mastery of a substantive area in epidemiology, including the application of that knowledge by writing a proposal that is designed to answer a specific epidemiologic or public health question.
DrPH-EPID 5	Calculate and interpret measures of association between exposure and disease, adjusted for relevant confounders, to draw appropriate inferences and evaluate causality for a public health problem.