

What is Population Health?

Population health is a systems-based approach to improving health outcomes that joins strategies from public health, wellness promotion, chronic disease prevention and management, and complex care into a cohesive discipline. It examines the social, economic, political, environmental, and cultural factors that affect the health of a population – the social determinants of health – and analyzes the effectiveness of social and community interventions, health policy, and evidence-based health care delivery models.

Our nation needs new approaches to improve the health of our communities. Population health strategies foster collaboration with diverse sectors, including education, social welfare, housing, transportation, environmental protection, and economic development.

New Mexico needs a workforce with the core knowledge and flexibility to adapt to a rapidly changing landscape in public health, wellness, disease prevention, and healthcare delivery.

COPH graduates will be prepared to meet these challenges. They will play a key role in ensuring our nation's health and well-being, enabling people to lead happier, healthier, and more productive lives.

The College of Population Health (COPH), one of only five institutions of its kind in the U.S., serves New Mexico's communities, government and non-profit agencies, businesses, and health-related organizations.

Our graduates will bring to the workplace a unique interdisciplinary perspective and skills to address the complex relationships that affect health outcomes.

The College is dedicated to advancing population health education and research to promote positive health outcomes and improve patient care.

The College cultivates partnerships between the University of New Mexico and the community to improve the health of New Mexicans.

The College is guided by the principles of diversity, health equity, social justice, creating a culture of excellence, and earning the trust of our communities.



COLLEGE OF POPULATION HEALTH

Working Together to Build a Healthier Population



hsc.unm.edu/population-health
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Our Programs

Bachelor of Science in Population Health (BSPH)

The BSPH requires 120 credit hours from a prescribed curriculum. Students will take 48 credits of core population health courses and select an area of focus in a discipline that incorporates the principles of population health. Graduates will be prepared to promote the health of populations across the continuum from public health and wellness to health care, from community systems to health systems, from health policy to community policies and from economic theory to economic practice.

This curriculum also meets the requirements for the UNM Health Sciences Center Inter-professional Education Honors Certificate. hsc.unm.edu/ipe/about/

If you are contemplating which program is right for you, talk with an advisor about your interests. You will receive guidance for a degree plan that best fits your career goals.

Scan this QR code to submit a request for information, or email cophadvising@unm.edu to set up an appointment.



Master of Public Health (MPH)

The degree requires 42 credit hours, including a practicum experience, as well as a thesis, professional paper or integrative experience. Students will select a concentration in community health, epidemiology or health systems, services and policy. An oral master's examination is required. Students may enroll full- or part-time and take up to seven years to complete the degree. Two dual degrees are offered, the MD/MPH, and an MA in Latin American Studies/MPH. Individual dual degrees may be organized with any department.



PhD in Health Equity Sciences

The degree consists of 66 credit hours and will offer concentrations in: Epidemiology, Global Health Equity and Policy, Community Based Participatory Research, Community Health Education and Biostatistics. Applicants must hold a graduate master's degree, provide documented experience in the form of research, job experience, completion of a master's thesis, a two-page statement of interest, three letters of recommendation and hold a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Undergraduate Minor/Certificate in Maternal Child Health (MCH)

The College of Population Health offers a 12-credit online interdisciplinary MCH Leadership program. Population Health students earn a certificate, while students from all other disciplines earn a minor in MCH. The certificate allows participants to develop knowledge and skills around the health and well-being of women, children, and families. Topics covered include women's health, children's health, social determinants of health, equity and racism, life course theory, MCH policy, MCH research, MCH programs, cultural and linguistic centered interventions, nutrition, oral health, MCH leadership, inter-disciplinary approaches, and prevention and health promotion practices.

