



# Behavioral & Community Health

2387 School of Public Health (SPH) Building  
(301) 405-2463

<http://sph.umd.edu/department/bch/program-overview>

School of Public Health

## Key Features of a Community Health Major

- Learn to participate in disease prevention through health promotion and wellness programs for various communities.
- Gain the necessary skills to plan, develop, implement, and evaluate community health education programs.
- Explore a comprehensive body of knowledge and a variety of strategies and experiences that encourage professional growth and development.
- Gain the necessary skills to work in a service-oriented profession with a variety of career opportunities that can make meaningful contributions to the health and welfare of an individual and society.

## Career Options and Salaries with a Community Health Major

The Bachelor of Science degree in Community Health prepares graduates for a variety of professional opportunities:

- Health Agencies -- The American Red Cross, the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, and many other health agencies employ Community Health Specialists. Job functions might include: designing and implementing educational programs, developing screening programs and community awareness programs; community outreach and service; fund raising projects to enhance educational concerns of the agency; and supervision of volunteer workers.
- Worksite Health Promotion -- With a bachelor's degree in Community Health an individual can seek employment in a variety of work related settings - corporate wellness programs, environmental worksites, HMO's, as well as hospitals and pharmaceutical companies. Health educators serve in a number of capacities - designing, implementing, and evaluating health programs in areas such as stress management, personal training, nutrition, worksite safety, and smoking cessation.
- Hospitals -- Hospital based health educators provide health promotion programs and courses to the community in many areas such as: childbirth, parenting, stress management, weight control, cancer prevention, low back pain, hypertension, diabetes, and fitness. If you are interested in public relations, media advocacy, organization and management, teaching, implementing new health oriented courses, and evaluating their effectiveness, a hospital setting may be the place for you.
- Government -- Alumni from the Community Health program have held positions at NIH within such institutes and offices such as Cancer Research; Child Health; AIDS; Heart, Lung and Blood. Other government agencies in which our alumni have held positions are the National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General, Office for Substance Abuse Prevention and the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drugs.

- Research and Development Organizations -- Private organizations in the area (MACRO, WESTAT, Prospect Associates) employ Community Health Specialists to become involved in activities such as grant writing and program development for NIH (programs in Breast Cancer Awareness, Dental Health, Drug Abuse, Hypertension, etc.).

Information taken from <http://sph.umd.edu/department/bch/careers-field>.

Salaries for Community Health graduates vary widely, depending upon the type of organization for which they work. The following are median salaries in the agencies hiring the most health educators and policy makers:

Individual and family services	\$33,740
State and Local government	\$39,240
Hospitals	\$43,530
Religious, grant making, civic organizations	\$38,190
Ambulatory health care services	\$34,740

In May 2015, the median salary for community health workers (regardless of specialty) was \$36,300 (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/health-educators.htm#tab-1>).

### Advising

Students interested in meeting with a Community Health Academic Advisor can make an appointment online at the link below. Walk-in advising is also available from 10am to 12pm on Wednesdays during the Fall and Spring semesters in SPH 2387.

For more information on advising, visit: <http://sph.umd.edu/department/bch/advising>

### Declaring a Community Health Major

- ***Community Health is not a Limited Enrollment Program. If you have decided to major in this field, you can declare immediately!***

Students interested in declaring or changing their major to Community Health must first attend a Community Health Change of Major Workshop. At this workshop, attendees will receive an orientation to the major, including degree requirements and course sequencing. After attending a Community Health Change of Major Workshop, students must attend an Academic Plan Workshop. At this workshop, students will complete an Academic Plan that outlines all the requirements they have remaining for the Community Health major.

To register for both workshops, create a login account for the SPH Student Success online appointment system at: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/1bvmm14x/> and select the workshops that work best with your personal and academic schedules. All workshops are held in the SPH Building and you must be registered for a workshop in advance to attend.

For more information on becoming a Community Health major, visit: <http://sph.umd.edu/content/become-sph-major-0>.

## Gen Ed Four Year Plan

Be sure to consult the Department of Behavioral and Community Health website (<http://sph.umd.edu/departement/bch/degree-requirements>) for specific information on all requirements.

### First Year:

MATH (MA) 3	ENGL 101 (AW) 3
Humanities (HU)* 3	BSCI 201 (NL) 4
HLTH 130 (HS) 3	HLTH 140 3
BSCI 170/171 (NL) 4	HLTH 230 (HS) 3
<u>Elective 3</u>	<u>Elective 3</u>
16 credits	16 credits

### Second Year:

BSCI 202 4	GenEd (SP – outside major) 3
HLTH Elective #1 3	Humanities (HU)* 3
Under. Plural Societies (UP) 3	HLTH 300 (AR) 3
HLTH 200 3	HLTH Elective #2 3
<u>Elective 3</u>	<u>Elective 3</u>
16 credits	15 credits

### Third Year:

HLTH 301 3	HLTH 391 (SP) 3
GenEd (UP or CC) 3	HLTH Elective #4 3
Professional Writing (PW) 3	HLTH Elective #5 3
HLTH Elective #3 3	Elective 3
<u>Elective 3</u>	<u>Elective 3</u>
15 credits	15 credits

### Fourth Year:

HLTH 420 (OC) 3	<u>HLTH 491 (Internship) 12</u>
HLTH 490 3	12 credits
HLTH Elective #6 3	
Elective 3	
<u>Elective 3</u>	
15 credits	

**TOTAL = 120 credits**

\* Select courses that will double count as I-Series.

## CORE Four Year Plan

Be sure to consult the Department of Behavioral and Community Health website (<http://sph.umd.edu/departement/bch/degree-requirements>) for specifics on all requirements.

### First Year:

Fundamental MATH (FM) 3	ENGL101 (FE) 3
Humanities Literature (HL) 3	BSCI201 (LL) 4
HLTH130 3	HLTH140 3
BSCI105 (LL) 4	Behavioral & Social Science (SB) 3
Elective 3	<u>History &amp; Theory of the Arts (HA) 3</u>
16 credits	16 credits

### Second Year:

BSCI 202 4	HLTH Elective #1 3
HO or HA or HL 3	Behavioral & Social Science (SB) 3
Social Political History (SH) 3	LL or LS or PL or PS or MS 3
HLTH200 3	HLTH300 3
HLTH230 3	<u>Elective 3</u>
16 credits	15 credits

### Third Year:

HLTH301 3	HLTH391 3
HLTH Elective #2 3	Advanced Studies (AS) 3
HLTH Elective #3 3	HLTH Elective #4 3
Diversity (D) 3	HLTH Elective #5 3
<u>Elective 3</u>	<u>ENGL39 (JE) 3</u>
15 credits	15 credits

### Fourth Year:

HLTH420 3	<u>HLTH491 (internship) 12</u>
HLTH490 3	12 credits
Advanced Studies (AS) 3	
HLTH Elective #6 3	
<u>Elective 3</u>	
15 credits	

**TOTAL = 120 credits**

## Q & A

***Does the Department of Public and Community Health offer a minor?***

No. The Minor in Community Health has been suspended and currently is not accepting students to the program (<http://www.umd.edu/catalog/index.cfm/show/content.section/c/127/s/1796>).

***I've heard that I have to do an internship before I can graduate. How do I find out about that?***

The semester before your internship, you will take HLTH 490 (Principles of Community Health). This class explains the requirements and helps you locate an internship that best fits your interests. You don't need to worry about the internship process until you take HLTH 490. These internships offer you the chance to gain practical experience, network, and obtain recommendations. There are a few paid internships, but most are unpaid. Many graduates receive job offers from their internships even before they graduate.