

Population Health, MS

NHPOPHLMS

Do you aspire to uplift others while considering the powerful social and environmental influences shaping health? Learn how to apply analytic and leadership skills to these complex systems in order to improve health outcomes.

Program description

Degree awarded: MS Population Health

The MS program in population health combines multiple disciplines to prepare students to understand the complex factors that affect the health and well-being of populations.

The program addresses the interaction between health systems and other sectors of society, including the private sector; government, nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations; media; and academia to affect population health outcomes.

The curriculum includes a strong repertoire of systems science, quantitative and qualitative research methods, epidemiology and biostatistics, and ethics courses, together with applied experience.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [College of Health Solutions](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#)

Degree requirements

30 credit hours and a portfolio, or

30 credit hours and a thesis, or

30 credit hours including the required applied project course (POP 593)

Required Core (15 credit hours)

BMI 515 Applied Biostatistics in Medicine and Informatics (3)

POP 575 Social Determinants of Population Health (3)
POP 605 Population Health Systems Science and Theory (3)
POP 633 Population Health Ethics (3)
POP 644 Epidemiology in Population Health (3)

Research (3 credit hours)

POP 641 Qualitative Research Methods (3)

Other Requirements (0 or 3 credit hours)

POP 584 Internship (3)

Electives (6 or 9 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (0 or 6 credit hours)

POP 593 Applied Project (3) or
POP 599 Thesis (6) or
portfolio (0)

Additional Curriculum Information

This program has three culminating experience options: a thesis, an applied project or a portfolio with the completion of an internship. Students who select the thesis option enroll in POP 599 for six credit hours and complete six credit hours of electives. Students who select the applied project option enroll in POP 593 for three credit hours and complete nine credit hours of electives. Students who select the portfolio with internship option must identify an internship site and complete three credits of POP 584, prepare a portfolio and complete nine credits of electives. Electives should be selected in consultation with program faculty.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Health Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in a relevant health or related field from a regionally accredited college or university.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program or a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. two references (academic or professional)

4. personal statement
5. resume or curriculum vitae
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of their current residency.

Before starting the program, applicants are expected to have completed a statistics course (e.g., HCD 300, STP 226 or PSY 230).

A personal statement (1-2 pages, single-spaced) must be submitted describing the applicant's knowledge, skills, experience, and goals related to the population health field.

Contact information of two references is required. References will be contacted via email to submit a letter of recommendation and respond to a series of questions about the applicant. References should be professional and academic sources familiar with your potential to be successful in the field of population health.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Application deadlines

Fall

[expand](#)

Career opportunities

The population health master's degree prepares graduates for careers in:

- county and state health departments
- national governmental health organizations
- nongovernmental organizations
- nonprofits

In these roles, graduates are especially well-suited to conduct assessments and data-driven analyses to contribute to policy-making or strategic planning affecting entire populations. Potential positions include:

- director of population health
- lead population health analyst, including informatics or data analysis
- lecturer in schools of population health
- manager of wellness strategy, communications or integration

- population, public, environmental or behavioral health program director, manager, coordinator or specialist
- public health initiatives coordinator

Professional licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the [ASU professional licensure](#) webpage.

Graduates from this program are eligible to sit for the Certified in Public Health exam upon graduation and completion of three years of relevant work experience. More information on the credential is available on the National Board of Public Health website. <https://www.nbphe.org/eligibility/>

Contact information

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