Students who choose to major in Public Health at UMD are passionate about promoting health and preventing disease. Graduates of the program practice in a variety of sites, such as public health departments, nonprofits and schools. The degree will prepare you to plan and deliver education programs to people of all ages. You’ll learn to apply your theoretical knowledge with field experiences and public engagement opportunities. Students with this degree can sit for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam. If you choose to follow the school concentration, you are also eligible for health education teacher licensure in grades 5-12.

Why UMD

- UMD is one of 21 public health programs nationally to have SABPAC approval. The major is recognized by the profession as a standard for programs preparing baccalaureate entry-level community health educators.
- Service learning and hands-on experience are a staple of the public health program at UMD.
- Students develop important technology and communication skills that are crucial in today’s public health settings.
- Graduates demonstrate commitment to the profession by involvement in organizations and service to university, community and beyond.

Acquired Skills

- Students will gain experiential understanding of areas of responsibility of a health education specialist through active learning.
- Effectively communicate through several mediums including oral, written, and multimedia.
- Understand theories and research used in health education.
- Work with diverse people in determining their needs for public health programming.

Career Possibilities

Entry level positions:

- Community Health Education Specialist
- Development Specialist
- Health Coach
- Patient Education Coordinator
- Prevention Program Director
- Wellness Coordinator
- Middle and High School Health Education Teacher (School concentration)

Advanced Degrees in:

- Occupational Therapy
- Environmental Health & Safety
- Risk Control
- Education
- Public Health
- Sports Administration and Leadership

Scholarships

Public Health students have the ability to apply for 3 scholarships specific to their major. Students working towards becoming a licensed health teacher (school health concentration) can apply for the Maulius and Mildred Brink Education Scholarship, a full-tuition
Students in CEHSP are eligible to apply for more than 100 scholarships each academic year typically totaling $120,000 annually. For more information on scholarship opportunities, visit our scholarship webpage (https://z.umn.edu/scholarshipcehsp).

Student Clubs

- Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)
- Education MN Student Association (EMSA)
- HERO Peer Health Coaches

Faculty Highlights

- Actively conduct research. Interests include: complementary and alternative medicine, arts and health.
- Presented at international and national conferences.
- Published in peer-reviewed journals.

Graduate Report

Recent UMD Graduates Job Placement Data & Employers

Here's a sampling of positions Public Health B.A.Sc grads have attained six months to one year after graduation.

- Community Health Education Specialist - Lower Sioux Health Center, Morton, MN
- Health Plan Specialist - Medica, Minnetonka, MN
- Residential Treatment Counselor - Northwood Children's Services, Duluth, MN
- Undergrad/Technical, Nursing, Central Lakes College, Brainerd, MN

For more data see the Public Health B.A.Sc Graduate Follow-Up Report. For ideas about Public Health B.A.Sc and other majors visit Career & Internship Services.