

Public Health

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE



Where It Can Take You

Completing an undergraduate degree in public health can open doors to graduate studies and career opportunities. Students with this degree often continue their academic path by pursuing a Master of Public Health or other graduate degree in the health professions. Others may enter the health professions in positions such as those listed below.

Become a Leader

- behavioral or health science
- community health coordinator
- community health educator
- community surveyor
- data analyst
- diabetes program coordinator
- educator
- emergency health planner
- health educator
- physician
- program coordinator
- public health inspector
- research assistant

B.S. Public Health

Prepare for a career in public health, one of today's most in-demand health care fields. This unique undergraduate program integrates a health science core curriculum with progressive health care topics that affect both local and global populations. You'll gain a solid foundation in public health issues, practices, and applications through faculty-led instruction as well as experiential and interprofessional learning opportunities.

What you'll study

As a student in the Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine's (KPCOM) public health program, you'll learn from faculty members who share their expertise in areas including global health, social and behavioral health sciences, epidemiology, environmental and occupational health, and health care. The interprofessional experiences of our faculty members will provide you with a real-world perspective on the benefits, rewards, and challenges of working in public health.

How you'll learn more

Expand your understanding of public health through engaging activities, interactive lectures, local and global outreach opportunities, and guest speakers from the public health sector. Gain hands-on experience and engage with fellow students and KPCOM faculty members while advancing your skills.

Become immersed in community-based public health settings through practicum experiences that reinforce the real-world applications of the methods, principles, and practices you learn in class. You can even go abroad to participate in global public health outreach opportunities.

Dual Admission Option

NSU's Dual Admission Program is the first in the U.S. to offer an accelerated, seven-year academic path from the B.S. in Public Health degree to the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree (D.O.). Acceptance into this Dual Admission Program reserves your seat in priority status in NSU's D.O. degree program while you're successfully working toward your bachelor's degree in public health.



Public Health

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WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?

Public health is the practice of protecting and improving the health of people and populations. You can practice public health through research, health promotion, disease prevention, and community outreach, as well as through policy and advocacy efforts. Public health professionals can focus on large global populations or work directly with local communities.

Public health is

- chronic and infectious disease prevention
- disaster preparedness and mitigation
- disparities in health care, access, and outcomes
- environmental health and risk analysis
- global health and health equity
- health policy and advocacy
- health systems and health reform
- social and behavioral factors in health promotion and wellness

WHY PUBLIC HEALTH?

Growth in public health careers is driven by efforts to improve health outcomes and reduce health care costs by teaching strategies to people and communities that will help them optimize health and wellness. Employment of health educators and community health workers is projected to grow 13 percent from 2014 to 2024, **which is faster than the average for all occupations.** (Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016–17 Edition.*)

Public health is advantageous for anyone interested in health and wellness. The curriculum is flexible to meet the academic requirements of students wishing to pursue graduate training in the health professions (e.g., medicine, nursing, and dental), as well as for students pursuing nonclinical professions.

This publication should not be viewed as a substitution for official program requirements and outcomes. A student is responsible for meeting the curriculum and program requirements in the *Undergraduate Student Catalog* that are in effect when the student enters the program.

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sexual orientation, and national or ethnic origin. ■ Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate's, baccalaureate, master's, educational specialist, doctorate, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Nova Southeastern University. 10-005-17_01PGA

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES?

- disaster and emergency specialist
- environmental scientist
- epidemiologist
- government employee
- health care administrator
- health educator
- health inspector
- health policy researcher or legislator
- nonprofit coordinator or executive director
- physician or other health professional
- policy advocate and lobbyist
- program developer, manager, and evaluator
- researcher or statistician



Admissions

3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314-7796
nova.edu/admissions
(954) 262-8000 • 800-338-4723
admissions@nsu.nova.edu


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UNIVERSITY
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of
Osteopathic Medicine