



JOINT DEGREES

http://www.uic.edu/sph/joint_degrees

The School of Public Health offers six joint degree programs, which allow students to complete both a Master of Public Health degree and a second professional degree in a shortened timeframe. Students can obtain their MBA/MPH, MD/MPH, DDS/MPH, MS in Nursing/MPH, JD/MPH, or a DVM/MPH. The School also participates in the joint MD/PhD with the College of Medicine.

Division	Availability of Joint Degree Programs by Division					
	MBA/MPH	MD/MPH	DDS/MPH	MSN/MPH	JD/MPH	DVM/MPH
CHS	✓	✓	✓	✓		
EOHS	✓	✓	✓			
EPID/BSTT	✓	✓	✓			✓
HPA	✓	✓	✓		✓	

Business Administration

The College of Business Administration and the School of Public Health offer a program of study leading to the Master of Business Administration and the Master of Public Health. The joint MBA/MPH program is designed for baccalaureate-prepared students who are seeking health care and business preparation for health care executive positions in government, hospital systems, long-term care, health maintenance organizations, planning/regulatory bodies, and consulting.

Medicine

To prepare physicians for the future, the UIC College of Medicine and the School of Public Health offer a combined program of study leading to both a Doctor of Medicine (MD) and a Master of Public Health degree in five years. The MPH requirements add only one additional year (the fourth year) to the MD program. At the end of the five years, graduates of the joint degree program are on-track for a residency with all other MD graduates—with the added advantage of having the MPH degree and experience in public health.

Dentistry

The College of Dentistry and the School of Public Health offer a program of study leading to the DDS and MPH degrees. The first-ever Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health, issued in 2000, found profound disparities in oral health in the nation's population, identified dental and oral diseases that burden some population groups disproportionately, and called for a national effort to improve oral health among all Americans. The MPH/DDS prepares dental professionals to utilize public health approaches to achieve this goal.

Nursing

Within the growing and changing industry of health care there is a shortage of nurses both nationally and globally, especially of those trained in public health strategies. Nurses who complete the joint-degree program will be well prepared to assume leadership positions in a variety of settings and programs that are community based or population focused. At UIC, nurses who are pursuing a master's degree specializing in community nursing can also work toward an MPH at the same time. This program is offered through the Community Health Sciences Division. The program is tailored to accommodate full-time students working to complete both degrees in two academic years. The required course work also can be completed on a part-time basis in up to four years.

Law

The coordinated JD/MPH program offered by the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law and the UIC School of Public Health is a collaborative effort between two distinguished institutions. To complete the dual degree, students take the first year of required law school course work, including two semesters in the legal research and writing program. After completing required courses, law students may pursue a deeper understanding of a particular health-related area including disability law, elder law, environmental and energy law, family law, food and drug law, genetics and law, health law, medical malpractice, and reproductive technology law. Public health studies include the core MPH course requirements and selected courses which complement legal studies. This program is offered through the Health Policy and Administration Division.

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Veterinarians have played a historically long and essential role in protecting the public's health as many human diseases have animal vectors and animals frequently serve as sentinels signaling environmental degradation and human disease potential. Naturally occurring outbreaks of SARS, avian flu virus, West Nile virus, monkeypox and tularemia in prairie dogs illustrate the need for highly qualified persons trained in zoonosis and public health epidemiology. Bioterrorist threats further the demand for these specially trained individuals. To prepare students to meet these challenges, the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and the School of Public Health at UIC offer a joint degree program leading to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and Master of Public Health (MPH) degrees.

Veterinary students in the combined degree will acquire epidemiologic and statistical concepts enabling them to understand population-based health phenomena and principles of community and environmental health which bear on the health of the population. More advanced public health courses in epidemiology will strengthen the student's veterinary training.

MD/PhD Training Program

Our society has a need for physicians who are accomplished population-based researchers as well as competent clinicians—individuals whose skills can bring the resources of epidemiology and biostatistics to bear on the problems of clinical medicine that have both individual and community effects. MD/PhD training in epidemiology and/or biostatistics provides an extended period of study in the etiologic and methodologic approaches of population-based health research in concert with a complete medical school education. Application is normally made at the time of application to the College of Medicine; however, applicants will also be considered during their first two years of medical training. Students must apply to the MD/PhD Training Program and to the College of Medicine and indicate in their application that they are interested in a PhD in epidemiology or biostatistics. Criteria for admission to the program include academic excellence, prior research experience, potential for independent and creative research, and commitment to a career in academic medicine. Students receive a stipend throughout their years of study.