Admission Criteria

To further this mission, the Master of Public Health program:

1. Provides professional preparation in the core competencies, functions, and responsibilities required of master level community health educators.
2. Embraces an ecological approach, including a curriculum that addresses determinants of health at the individual, interpersonal, organizational, community, and policy levels.
3. Builds the specialized professional competencies required to promote health and prevent disease among culturally diverse populations.
4. Incorporates the principles of adult learning in the application of knowledge and skills to specific public health problems.
5. Engages students in applying theory and research to practice in partnership with communities to address the social determinants of health, reduce inequities, and contribute to building healthy communities.
6. Emphasizes collaborative leadership and team building through a cohorted learning community approach.
7. Serves the campus community and the communities of the Bay Area through developing mutually beneficial partnerships with communities, community-based organizations, public health departments, and other public and private institutions.

Admission Procedures

1. **Strongly Recommended: Attend a Prospective M.P.H. Student Information Session.** Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend one of these sessions. See the Department Events webpage (http://healthed.sfsu.edu/events) for the calendar of information sessions offered each academic year. These faculty-led sessions provide detailed information about the program, curriculum, admission criteria, selection procedures, and the application process. To reserve a space in one of the sessions, follow directions indicated on the Department Events webpage (http://healthed.sfsu.edu/events). For directions, parking and a campus map, visit the SF State Parking & Transportation website (http://parking.sfsu.edu). Out-of-area applicants unable to attend an information session can email hedMPH@sfsu.edu (hedmph@sfsu.edu) to request a copy of program informational materials by email.

2. **Application Process:** New M.P.H. students are admitted only during fall semesters, as a cohort learning community. An applicant must submit all required application materials by the priority application deadline for the application to be considered during the priority admission review period for subsequent fall semester admission. These application materials include both those required by the SF State Division of Graduate Studies and those required by the SF State Department of Health Education. After the priority application deadline, if spaces remain in the incoming fall cohort, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until, or until the subsequent fall cohort is filled, whichever comes first. Please refer to the M.P.H. Program Admission website (https://healthed.sfsu.edu/mph/admissions) for updated deadlines for each admission cycle.

3. **Admission Decision Notification.** Applicants who apply by the priority application deadline will receive an admission decision notification from the Division of Graduate Studies. For applicants who submit their applications after the priority deadline during a rolling admission period, admission decision notification will take place within 2-3 weeks of application submission. Please refer to the M.P.H. Program Admission website (https://healthed.sfsu.edu/mph/admissions) for updated notification dates for each admission cycle.

4. **M.P.H. Student Move to Classified Status.** Admitted M.P.H. applicants enroll in the SF State M.P.H. program with conditionally classified status. To move to classified status, a student must meet all of the conditions specified by the Division of Graduate Studies and the Department of Health Education. These include any specialized conditions indicated in the Department of Health Education admission recommendation letter and M.P.H. Student Handbook, both the Level One and Level Two written English proficiency requirements for Master of Public Health students, meeting all course grade thresholds as specified in the M.P.H. Student Handbook, completion of at least two consecutive semesters of coursework of 3.0 or higher grade point average, and the demonstration of professional ethics and effective collaborative learning skills.
addition, in order to continue in the M.P.H. program, a student must make satisfactory progress toward degree completion each semester, including meeting all standards as stipulated by the department. Departmental standards, detailed in the M.P.H. Student Handbook, include meeting the specified departmental grade thresholds for individual courses. M.P.H. students are allowed a maximum of two attempts to complete a required course at or above the threshold grade specified in the M.P.H. Student Handbook. A course withdrawal counts as a course completion attempt. Students who do not meet the grade threshold after two attempts at a course will be declassified.

Application Period

New students are admitted as a cohorted learning community for fall semesters only - there are no spring admits. The priority application period begins on October 1st and continues till the priority application deadline for subsequent fall semester admission. Please refer to the M.P.H. Program Admission website (https://healthed.sfsu.edu/mph/admissions) for the updated deadline. If spaces remain in the cohort after the priority application deadline, then there will be a rolling admission period or until the incoming fall cohort is filled, whichever comes first.

Written English Proficiency Requirement

The university has a requirement for written English proficiency that is to be assessed at two different levels.

Level I

Students must demonstrate graduate-level proficiency in written English prior to admission to the M.P.H. program with a score of 4.0 or higher on the Analytical Writing Section of the GRE. An applicant who scores below a 4.0 on the Analytical Writing Section of the GRE is required to submit an academic writing sample with the application, and may be admitted to the M.P.H. program, but with the stipulation that the student engage in additional writing skills development activities before program commencement and/or during program enrollment. The enrolled student must also meet the Level II written English proficiency as specified below.

Level II

The student’s ability to write in a scholarly manner in the major field must be demonstrated by successfully meeting the B or higher grade thresholds of the first-semester first-year courses H ED 810, H ED 815, and H ED 884.

Curriculum

The M.P.H. curriculum emphasizes critical thinking skills, collaborative learning, problem-solving, practical experience, social justice, and advocacy. The program consists of 44 units, scheduled to accommodate working professionals while maintaining sound pedagogy. The program can be completed in a minimum of five semesters, which translates into two academic years, including a summer semester between the first and second year. More moderately paced degree completion plans are also available.

Master of Public Health — 44 units

Required Courses (44 units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H ED 810</td>
<td>Public Health and Principles of Community Organizing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H ED 811</td>
<td>Community Health Education Skills ePortfolio</td>
<td>1</td>
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