Public Health

For information about Yale College course offerings related to health, see under Global Health Studies.

The five-year B.A.–B.S./M.P.H. degree program  The B.A.–B.S./M.P.H. degree program in Public Health offers Yale College students interested in the field of public health the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree from Yale College and an M.P.H. degree from the Yale School of Public Health (YSPH) in a five-year joint program.

Undergraduate requirements  During four years of Yale College enrollment, students complete any standard major. Four of the thirty-six course credits required for the bachelor’s degree are typically taken at YSPH in partial fulfillment of the M.P.H. degree requirements. Students may take additional YSPH courses while enrolled in Yale College, but no more than four course credits earned in the professional schools may be applied toward the bachelor’s degree. Two Yale College courses selected from an approved list may be counted as electives toward the M.P.H. degree requirements.

Students accepted into the B.A.-B.S./M.P.H. program typically take the following courses at the School of Public Health while enrolled in Yale College: BIS 505, Introduction to Statistical Thinking I and II; CDE 505, Social and Behavioral Foundations of Health; CDE 508, Principles of Epidemiology I; EPH 515, Introduction to Research and Professional Ethics Seminar; either HPM 510, Introduction to Health Policy and Health Systems, or HPM 560, Health Economics and U.S. Health Policy; and either EHS 510, Introduction to Environmental Health, or EHS 503, Introduction to Toxicology.

During the summer between the fourth and fifth years, students complete a public health internship.

Master's program requirements  Students accepted into the program affiliate with one of seven departments or programs at the School of Public Health; this affiliation determines the primary adviser and the specific requirements for the five-year program. During the fifth year, students are in full-time residence at the School of Public Health to complete their remaining course work and master’s thesis.

Admission requirements  Students apply to the B.A.–B.S./M.P.H. program in the fall term of the junior year. Successful candidates present a verified commitment to improving the health of the public and evidence of quantitative skills. Two terms each of college-level mathematics, science, and social science courses are recommended, although some of these courses can be completed after applying to the program. Additional qualifications may be required by particular departments or programs. Applications are submitted through the School of Public Health’s application service, SOPHAS Express, and include transcripts, SAT scores, two letters of recommendation (at least one from an instructor of a Yale course), a personal statement, and approval from the student’s residential college dean. Questions about admissions should be directed to Mary Keefe (mary.keefe@yale.edu).

Further information about the program may be viewed on the YSPH website.