Bachelor of Science in Public and Community Health

Available on the main Murray campus and all Regional Campuses

Healthcare is the largest industry in the United States and the second largest employer. The Bachelor of Science in Public and Community Health at Murray State University is a dynamic major that is interdisciplinary in nature and provides options that allow students to prepare for various careers in public and community health organizations, such as hospitals, governmental agencies, non-profits, and worksite wellness programs.

These programs prepare students to sit for professional certifications/licensures as well as for graduate studies in related fields.

The following three tracks, each culminating with a semester-long internship, are offered:

Healthcare Administration
This track provides students with the basic knowledge, skills, and applied studies needed for entry-level positions in a variety of healthcare settings. It can also be a springboard to a graduate program for those seeking higher level positions. The curriculum prepares students to learn about the different facets of healthcare administration, such as finance, human resources, healthcare quality management, and healthcare planning. Employment of Medical and Health Services Managers is expected to grow 17% by 2024.*

Health Education and Promotion
This track prepares students for careers in disease prevention; health and wellness promotion; and health disparities. The curriculum prepares students to promote the health of individuals and groups as a health educator in a variety of settings and to implement health promotion programs. It also prepares students to become Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES). Employment of Health Educators and Community Health Workers is expected to grow 13% by 2024.*

Health Informatics Administration
This track focuses on the increasing use of technology in the health care profession, such as electronic medical records. The curriculum is a blend of computer programming, data mining and analysis, medical coding, healthcare administration, information technology, and telecommunication system management. It also prepares students to become Registered Health Information Administrators (RHIA). Employment of Medical Records and Health Information Technicians is expected to grow 15% by 2024.*

* Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

POTENTIAL CAREERS

Healthcare Administrator
Community Outreach Coordinator
Health Informatics Technician
Mental Health Counselor
Nursing Home Director
Electronic Medical Records Specialist
Health Planner
Wellness Coordinator
Epidemiologist

For more information
Dr. Miranda Terry, Program Director
Phone: 270.809.3839
Email: mterry4@murraystate.edu

Or visit us at
www.murraystate.edu/pch

Equal education and employment opportunities M/F/D. AA employer
University Studies Requirements ......................... 41 hrs
(See Academic Bulletin, University Studies Requirements)

University Studies selections must include:

- **Scientific Inquiry, Methodologies, and Quantitative Skills**
  - BIO 101 Biological Concepts (or higher)
  - MAT 140 College Algebra (or higher math)

- **Social and Self-Awareness and Responsible Citizenship**
  - PHI 202 Ethics or
  - HEA 260 Introduction to Medical Ethics
  - PSY 180 General Psychology

- **University Studies Electives**
  - CSC 199 Introduction to Information Technology or
  - CSC 101 Introduction to Problem Solving Using Computers

- **Unrestricted Electives ......................... 3-14 hrs**

**Total Curriculum Requirements ....................... 120 hrs**

Public and Community Health Core .................... 44 hrs

- EXS 400 Research Design Stats for Applied Health or
- NTN 303 Research Concepts in Foods and Nutrition or
- PSY 301 Principles & Methods of Psych Research or
- SWK 303 Principles and Methods of Research
- HCA 450 Human Resource Management in Health Care
- HEA 100T Transitions
- HEA 191 Personal Health
- HEA 201 Introduction to Public & Community Health
- HEA 301 Chronic and Communicable Diseases
- HEA 302 Consumer Health
- HEA 303 Health Behavior
- HEA 310 Biostatistics in Public Health or
- PSY 300 Principles & Methods of Statistical Analysis or
- STA 135 Introduction to Probability and Statistics
- HEA 311 Epidemiology
- HEA 411 Health Policy
- HEA 490 Senior Seminar in Public & Community Health
- HEA 499 Prof Experience in Public & Community Health
- HIA 301 Overview of the Healthcare Delivery System
- HIA 401 Healthcare Quality Management

Select one of the following tracks:

**Healthcare Administration ......................... 24 hrs**

- BUS 215 Business Communication or
- COM 380 Organizational Communication
- HCA 395 Cultural Diversity for Health Care Orgs or
- COM 340 Intercultural Communication
- HCA 405 Hospital and Health Services Administration
- HCA 410 Health Care Planning
- HCA 415 Financial Aspects of Health Service Organizations
- HEA 356 Health Promotion Programming
- HEA 475 Health Assessment and Evaluation
- NLS 351 Leadership and Support Systems in Nonprofit Organizations

**Health Education and Promotion .................. 24 hrs**

- HEA 304 Mental Health: A Public Health Perspective
- HEA 350 Foundations of Community Health Education
- HEA 356 Health Promotion Programming
- HEA 412 Environmental Health: A Public Health Perspective
- HEA 460 Human Sexuality
- HEA 470 Education for Drug Abuse Prevention
- HEA 475 Health Assessment and Evaluation
- NTN 230 Nutrition

**Health Informatics Administration ............... 32 hrs**

- BIO 120 Scientific Etymology
- BIO 220 Clinical Terminology
- CIS 317 Principles of Information Systems Analysis and Design
- CSC 145 Introduction to Programming or
- CSC 232 Introduction to Programming in C# or
- CSC 235 Programming in C++
- HCA 405 Hospital and Health Services Administration
- HCA 410 Health Care Planning
- HCA 415 Financial Aspects of Health Service Organizations
- HIA 302 Legal Aspects of Health Information Administration
- HIA 303 Healthcare Coding and Classification
- HIA 402 Medical Coding and Reimbursement
- HIA 410 Healthcare Data Structures and Management
- TSM 351 Principles of Information Security

**Program Requirements:**

Students must achieve and maintain an overall GPA of 2.50 and an area GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale. Students must earn a grade of C or better in Public and Community Health Core courses to successfully complete the program. Additionally, a grade of B or better in MAT 140 (or higher) and a grade of C or better in BIO 101 are required for program completion.

Students with a grade of below a C in Public and Community Health Core courses and/or a grade of B in MAT 140 (or higher) and a grade below C in BIO 101 may not continue with the Public and Community Health program progression and must retake the course(s) the next semester offered.

**Notes:**