

Graduate Certificate in Public Health

The UNF Public Health Certificate (PHC) Program consists of five required courses. The PHC Program prepares participants with a broad understanding of the core areas of public health and skills necessary for public health practice in a wide range of public and private institutions. This certificate is ideal for those students who are working on a Master's degree in another field, but are interested in or plan to work in a public health setting, or for professionals who are working in the field but do not have a degree in public health. The PHC is offered through the UNF Master of Public Health (MPH) program. MPH faculty teach the required PHC courses, and students take courses along with MPH students. The UNF MPH Program is nationally accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

The Certified in Public Health (CPH) credential, offered by the National Board of Public Health Examiners, is the only voluntary core credential for public health professionals. The CPH designation demonstrates that an individual has mastered foundational competencies in public health. To be eligible for CPH, one must be a graduate of a CEPH-accredited MPH program or have taken the five core classes (epidemiology, biostatistics, behavioral sciences/health education, environmental health, health administration/policy) at a CEPH-accredited institution and meet either of two additional eligibility criteria: 1) minimum of five years of public health experience; OR 2) completion of a relevant graduate degree. Hence, individuals completing the UNF PHC may be eligible to take the CPH exam.

The UNF PHC Program is offered in a hybrid format – students can complete the program in one year meeting on campus one to two nights per week on average. The Program admits one cohort of students each fall semester. Each course is offered in one of three ways: 1) face-to-face; 2) distance learning (DL); or 3) hybrid. Face-to-face courses meet on UNF campus, typically one night per week, 6:00-8:45pm. DL courses are offered online. Hybrid courses are a combination of the first two methods, with no more than half of classes meeting face-to-face. This format makes the UNF PHC Program very accessible to those working full time while still providing meaningful interaction with faculty and peers.

ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

University Requirements:

1. A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or its equivalent from a foreign institution with a GPA of 3.0 or higher in all work attempted in the last 60 credit hours of undergraduate study.

Individuals with a bachelor's degree in any field may be accepted into the PHC Program; there are no pre-requisites. Acceptance into the PHC Program is dependent on student eligibility and space in the program. Students who have graduated from the MPH program or are enrolled in the MPH Program are not eligible to earn the Certificate. All courses for the Certificate must be completed at the University of North Florida.

Students must apply for the Public Health Certificate through the UNF graduate school and submit their official transcripts. No application fee is required for currently enrolled UNF students. Questions about the Admission Process can be directed to The Graduate School at UNF: (904) 620-1360.

CERTIFICATE COURSES

Requirements			(15 Semester Hours)
PHC	6050	Public Health Biostatistics I	3
PHC	6102	Public Health Policy & Management	3
HSC	6215	Environmental Health	3
PHC	6000	Epidemiology I	3
HSC	6603	Social & Behavioral Aspects of Public Health	3



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This fact sheet is intended to be a description of the degree requirements in effect for the 2014-2015 academic year. It should not be construed as an irrevocable contract between the student and the program, the Brooks College of Health, and/or UNF. UNF reserves the right to change any policies, academic programs, procedures or fees described in this fact sheet and to apply these changes to any or all of its students as required by the University, Board of Trustees, or Florida Legislative mandate. The University of North Florida is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about accreditation of the University of North Florida. Questions about fact sheet information should be directed to the Advising Office, University of North Florida, Brooks College of Health at (904) 620-2812. Individual contact to the Commission on Colleges about the University of North Florida accreditation status should occur only if there is evidence that appears to support significant noncompliance with a requirement of standard.

Revised September 2018