



Population Health Certificate

An online, full-time, one-year professional certificate– part-time also available (12 credit hours)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Shenandoah University's Division of Public Health (SUPH) offers a Population Health Certificate to prepare individuals with the skills to examine and respond to the challenges and opportunities to improve health within and across populations. The health care service delivery landscape is rapidly transforming, and new competencies are required for clinicians to effectively navigate and succeed in this ever-changing environment.

Health systems across the nation are confronting the realities of rising costs, inefficiencies in systems, and poor health outcomes. Population health is a broad approach that can be used to respond to these challenges, and aims to address disease and injury prevention with approaches that engage communities and populations through integration of public health and clinical practices. This program is structured to guide health care professionals and health professions students seeking to transform or create sustainable models of care from a population health perspective. These certificate courses can be applied towards the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate application and \$30 application fee.
- Unofficial transcripts from all institutions of higher education previously attended.
- One letter of recommendation from a current supervisor or academic advisor, professor, mentor, or person familiar with the applicant's academic and/or professional ability. A faculty letter of recommendation is strongly encouraged.
- Resume/C.V.
- Personal statement (250 words) that describes the applicant's reasons for pursuing the certificate and their relevant work experience.
- Academic writing sample (excerpt, 2-10 pages) with citations.
 - This includes research papers, presentations, or any writing assignment that required references and used peer-reviewed literature. If the applicant does not have this type of sample to submit, please contact SUGradAdmissions@su.edu for suitable substitutions.
- Language proficiency must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details: <https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>

Upload all documents to your [Shenandoah Admissions Self-Service Center](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Who is this program designed for?**
The population health certificate is uniquely designed for current and/or aspiring health care professionals to obtain training in key areas of population health.

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

Start Term

Fall (August) and Spring (January)

Admission Deadline

Fall: August 1

Spring: December

Minimum GPA: 3.0 cumulative

Completed applications reviewed regularly

Format/Location

Online

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to <http://www.su.edu/phapp>

Foreign Transcripts

International transcript evaluation by an accredited agency is an admission requirement. Approved services are listed at www.naces.org and <http://aice-eval.org/>.

Transfer Credit

Up to 6 graduate credits may be transferred when earned at an accredited institution. All transfer credits (earned grade of B or higher) must fill curricular requirements or electives.

Contact Us

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Director of Graduate Public Health Programs

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Office of Graduate Admissions

<mailto:SUGradAdmissions@su.edu>

call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-401-5709

Office of Financial Aid

<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>

<mailto:finaid@su.edu> | call: 540-665-4538



Dr. Michelle Gamber
Director of Graduate Public Health Programs



CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

Course	Title	Credits
PH 502	Population Health for the Health Professions	3
PH 505	Social & Behavioral Aspects of Public Health	3
PH 515	Principles of Epidemiology	3
PH 520	Health Policy & Management	3
	TOTAL	12

Students wishing to transfer to the Master of Public Health degree may apply to do so after successfully completing at least three courses. Up to 12 credits of coursework may be applied to the MPH program once a student is admitted.

POPULATION HEALTH CURRICULUM

Shenandoah University's Population Health Certificate is delivered entirely online. Students will attend classes in an online environment that will be engaging and interactive. This learning model requires students to be highly motivated, active, independent, and self-directed learners. Students are expected to think critically and act professionally in the application of course material to real-world health problems.

This program will provide students with an opportunity to analyze current health problems from a variety of interdisciplinary and interprofessional viewpoints. The program provides coursework opportunities for students to obtain broad knowledge and basic skills in public health. The Population Health Certificate provides a foundation in population health training, and earned certificate credit may be used towards completion of the MPH degree at Shenandoah University.

CAREER OUTLOOK

Population health is a dynamic, diverse, and growing field where practitioners work from a myriad of disciplines and approaches to improve the health and lives of people. Practitioners work together to address the root causes of complex and multi-faceted health problems in order to develop practical, sustainable, and cost-effective solutions.

The current employment outlook for public health professionals is strong and growing annually. The demand for public health professionals continues to rise in response to increasing domestic and international health concerns such as: growing problems with chronic diseases, potential pandemics, air and water quality issues, workplace safety, and more. As these concerns continue to impact the health of our population, the need for a trained public health force to respond to these issues persists.