The field of health services examines the organization and financing of various activities to prevent and treat disease. This includes programs in both the public and private sectors at all levels—local, state, and federal.

Faculty members come from such diverse fields as economics, management, law, statistics, operations research, planning, medicine, history, sociology, and political science. These diverse backgrounds are harmonized by their devotion to the analysis of problems in the financing and delivery of health services.

The Department of Health Services offers both practice-oriented professional and research-oriented graduate programs. The primary professional degree, the Master of Public Health (MPH), includes training in health management and leadership, policy formulation, quality and performance management. For more advanced professional work, the DrPH degree offers education in the full scope of public health services and prepares candidates for leadership in public agencies at all jurisdictional levels, and in private health organizations.

For those interested in careers in research and teaching, the department offers MS and PhD degrees in Health Services. These programs maintain close ties with related activities in the Schools of Dentistry and Medicine, including the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program, the Program in Prevention, and the Cancer Control Division. Graduates of the academic degree programs pursue careers in universities, as well as in public and private agencies involved in health services research and health policy analysis.
DEGREES OFFERED

Master of Public Health (MPH)
Master of Science in Health Services (MS)
Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)
Doctor of Philosophy in Health Services (PhD)

HEALTH SERVICES DEGREE PROGRAMS

Courses of study are offered leading to the award of

1. A two-year MPH with specialization in health policy or management
2. A one-year MPH in health services organization for postdoctoral students (Degree in the U.S.)
3. A three-year M.B.A./MPH in health services management offered in cooperation with the John E. Anderson Graduate School of Management
4. A four-year J.D./MPH program offered in conjunction with the School of Law at UCLA
5. A five-year MD/MPH program offered concurrently with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
6. A two-year MPH for Health Professionals, an executive-style program in health care management for fully employed professionals
7. A two-year MS program emphasizing health services research and program evaluation
8. A one-year MS program for postdoctoral students emphasizing health services research and program evaluation
9. A DrPH program for seasoned professionals, emphasizing Health Services and Public Health leadership and administration.
10. A PhD program, an advanced degree in health services research.

The two-year MPH degree, with specialization in health policy or management, prepares students for careers in health management, leadership and public policy analysis related to health. The MPH degree sequence involves 21 months of study, with students generally admitted only in Fall Quarter of each academic year. The curriculum consists of three phases: a three-quarter sequence of academic coursework, followed by a summer field placement of at least 10 weeks, followed by a final three quarters of further academic coursework. An average class size of 20 to 25 students is generally admitted each year. The curriculum for the health policy track has three main purposes: (1) to give a general orientation to policy analysis, (2) to provide specific quantitative and analytical skills necessary for effective functioning in this area, and (3) to assist students in the development of a specific, personalized career-orientation. Students in the health policy track may find positions in the public sector, in policy research, in community-based organizations, and in policy or government affairs of health delivery systems.

The curriculum for the health care management track has the following purposes: (1) to provide students with a broad set of fundamental skills necessary to perform in a variety of settings at an entry level or higher management position, (2) to provide analytical and critical thinking skills necessary to solve complex health care management tasks in a dynamic environment, and (3) to assist students in developing professional skills related to enhancing their careers. Students in this track find positions in health care delivery in public and private settings, health care finance and health maintenance organizations, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

The one-year MPH degree, with specialization in health services organization, is for students with prior doctoral-level degrees (MD, J.D., PhD, or equivalent in the U.S.). This program allows students to build on existing expertise in the issues, skills, and disciplines involved in the organization and analysis of health services. The academic work covers the same core areas as the MPH in health policy and management; however, the exact length of the program and the nature of the field placement, if any, depends on the student’s background.
The department, in cooperation with the John E. Anderson Graduate School of Management, offers a **health services management** course of study leading to the award of the MPH and M.B.A. degrees concurrently. Students interested in this program must apply and be admitted to both the Department of Health Services in the School of Public Health and the John E. Anderson Graduate School of Management. The concurrent degree program assists individuals in preparing themselves to manage organizations that provide personal health services, as well as biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and health care supplier and financing organizations.

Graduates of the program typically assume positions as policy analysts or researchers, computer or health information systems managers, evaluators, and consultants. Typical examples of jobs that graduates have recently assumed include assistant administrator of a large health maintenance organization; clinic administrator in a hospital; assistant administrators in medium-sized hospitals; director of utilization and financial revenue in a medical center; coordination of quality improvement in a health system; health policy analyst in a state health department; policy analyst in a national association of hospitals; financial or operations analyst of an integrated delivery system; quality outcomes manager of a health care system; and consultant.

All students applying to the department are urged to obtain additional information about the specific areas of concentration and the application and admission process by visiting the department website at www.ph.ucla.edu/hs.

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### MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (M.P.H)

The MPH is a schoolwide professional degree in the field of public health. Health services is one of the areas of specialization. Students learn public health practice and principles to acquire a broad knowledge related to professional skills.

#### Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the University minimum requirement of an acceptable bachelor’s degree with a B (3.0) average in upper division coursework and/or a 3.5 GPA in prior graduate study. Exceptionally qualified applicants may be considered on an individual basis. If undergraduate coursework has been deficient in breadth of fundamental training, students must take specified undergraduate courses after admission. Prior field experience is not required as a condition of admission, although a background of public health or health-related experience may be considered in the evaluation.

Applicants must perform satisfactorily on the verbal and quantitative sections (analytical section is not required) of a recent Graduate Record Examination (GRE), Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), or Dental Admission Test (DAT). MCAT or DAT scores are accepted only for applicants already holding MD or DDS degrees. Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) scores are accepted only for applicants to the joint M.B.A./MPH program. The GRE requirement may be waived for applicants with a doctoral degree from a U.S. university and five years of appropriate postdoctoral experience.

The school does not have a minimum combined score requirement. As a guideline, the average GRE scores for those offered admission over the past three years are Verbal: 540 and Quantitative: 650.

International applicants should consult the **UCLA Application for Graduate Admission** for information on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination, and UCLA English as a Second Language Placement Examination (ESLPE) requirements.

The applicant’s prior program of study should include adequate preparation in mathematics, physical sciences, biological sciences, and social sciences and typically includes two courses each in mathematics, biological sciences, social sciences; one course in physical sciences; and other courses that constitute an adequate preparation for the proposed area of specialization.

Applicants whose undergraduate or graduate work in the biological, physical, mathematical, and social sci-
ences does not constitute adequate preparation for the proposed area of specialization must include courses in those sciences in their graduate programs; these may not be applied toward the minimum requirements for the degree.

Applicants must be one of the following:

1. Holders of a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution. Preparation in the sciences basic to public health must be adequate. Such sciences may include various combinations of (a) life sciences, (b) physical sciences and mathematics, (c) social sciences, (d) behavioral sciences. Applicants are not expected to be prepared in all four of these fields, but a background in a suitable combination of these sciences is required.

2. Qualified physicians at UCLA in the General Preventive Medicine Residency.

3. Qualified students in the School of Medicine articulated degree programs or in the School of Management or School of Law concurrent programs.

**Course Requirements**

Students must complete at least one year of graduate residence at the University of California and a minimum of 14 full courses (56 units), at least six of which must be graduate courses and at least two of which must be 400-series courses. Only one 596 course (4 units) may be applied toward the six graduate courses; 597 and 598 courses may not be applied toward the degree.

Only courses in which students receive a grade of C– or better may be applied toward the requirements for a master’s degree. S/U-graded courses may not be applied toward the degree requirements. Students must maintain an average of no less than 3.0 (B) in all courses required or elected during graduate residence at the University of California.

All students must complete the required school core courses including Biostatistics 100A or 110A, Community Health Sciences 100, Environmental Health Sciences 100, and Epidemiology 100. Each core course may be waived if students have taken a similar college-level course elsewhere and can pass the waiver examination.

Required department core courses include Health Services 200A and 200B.

Field training in an approved public health program of at least 10 weeks or 400 hours is required of candidates who have not had prior relevant field experience.

Students pursuing an MPH in Health Services may specialize in one of several tracks:

**Health Care Management** is a two-year program requiring 22 full courses, a summer internship in a health organization, and a major written consulting report. Required courses include Health Services 234, M236, M249L, 251, 400, 403, M422, 431, 433, 436, 437, 442, and 445. In addition, students must select at least three electives from relevant courses in Health Services M204A, M204B, M204C, 205, 206, 214, 220, CM221, 231, 232, M233, 235, 238, 239, 240, CM241, M242, 249O through 249S, 250, M255, 286, 288, M287, 401, M411, 427, 432, 434, 438, 441, 444, or 447E, or from other departments in the School of Public Health or other relevant School at UCLA.

**Health Policy** is a two-year program requiring 21 courses, a summer internship in a local health care organization, and a major written consulting report. Required courses include Health Services M233, M236, M249L, 286, M287, 400, M422, 431, and 442 or Biostatistics 100B. In addition, students must select at least five relevant elective courses from Health Services M204A-C, 205, 206, 214, 220, 231, 232, 234, 235, 238, 239, 240, CM241, M242, 249O through 249S, 250, 286, 288, M289, M411, 431, 433, 436, 438, 441, 442, 444, or 447E, or from other departments in the School of Public Health, or other relevant School at UCLA.

**The Master of Public Health for Health Professionals** is uniquely designed for working professionals intent on expanding their responsibilities and enhancing their leadership and management skills. The curriculum provides a comprehensive business education that is fully integrated with a public health perspective and relevant to the most critical contemporary issues that impact
the business, management and leadership of healthcare organizations. The course curriculum consists of 24 fully-integrated classes that offer a comprehensive overview of the current issues confronting public health and healthcare, and in-depth exploration of how those issues impact the management and leadership entities, and the application of essential business tools to the analysis, design and evaluation of strategies for navigating the ever-changing healthcare marketplace. Required courses include Health Services 234, M236, M249L, 400, 403, M422, 431, 433, 436, 445, 450, and Biostatistics 419.

**MPH/M.B.A.** is a three-year concurrent degree program requiring a minimum of 13 full courses (52 units) in the School of Public Health and a summer internship in a health organization. Required courses include Health Services M236, M249L, 400, M422, 437, and 442. Management 402 may be substituted for Biostatistics 100A. For further information, refer to the listing under Combined Degree Programs.

**MPH/J.D.** is a four-year concurrent degree program with 12 required courses (52 units) and 5 elective courses (20 units) in the School of Public Health and a summer internship in a local health care organization. Students must also complete 16 elective quarter units allowed for concurrent credit in Public Health and Law. In addition to the Public Health core requirements, students must take the following required Health Services courses: M236, M249L, 400, 403, M422, and 442.

**MPH/MD** is a five-year concurrent degree program with 11 required courses (48 units) and 3 elective courses (12 units) in the School of Public Health and a summer internship in a local health care organization. In addition to the Public Health core requirements, students must take the following required Health Services courses: Biostatistics 100B, M236, 400, 403, and M422.

**Health Services Organization** is a one-year program requiring a minimum of 13 full courses (56 units). Admission is limited to students with prior doctoral-level degrees (MD, PhD, J.D., DDS, or equivalent). Applicants with doctoral degrees from other countries should plan to take the two-year program. Satisfactory performance on the GRE is usually required, and a personal interview is recommended. Required courses include Health Services M236 and 403. Students may petition to waive out of the summer internship and Health Services 400 requirements if they have prior relevant experience in public health practice or health services.

**Comprehensive Examination Plan**

Students who are not required to take Health Services 400 or waive out of Health Services 400 must take the departmental comprehensive examination. Students who fail may be reexamined once. The aim of the examination, as a culminating experience, is to assess students’ ability to select theories, methods, and techniques from across the content matter of a field, integrate and synthesize knowledge, and apply it to the solution of public health problems.

**Field Training**

Field training in an approved health services organization is required of candidates who have not had prior relevant field experience.

**Time to Degree**

From graduate admission to award of the degree (depending on the area of specialization), normal progress is from three to seven terms. The upper limit for completion of all requirements is seven quarters of enrollment, including graduate study at a University of California campus prior to admission to the School of Public Health. The maximum time allowed from enrollment to graduation, including leaves of absence, is five years.

**MASTER OF SCIENCE (MS) IN HEALTH SERVICES**

The MS in Health Services, with a specialization in research, has a curriculum that emphasizes research skills in the area of health services. It includes the preparation of a thesis or comprehensive examination/major written report. Some of these graduates will want to continue their studies toward the PhD degree.
Health Services

◆ Admission Requirements

See the admission requirements for the MPH program.

◆ Course Requirements

Students must complete Health Services 200A, 200B, 237A, 237B, 237C, M422, Biostatistics 200A, 200B, and Epidemiology 100. All Masters of Science students must complete 16 full courses (68 units) and at least one year of graduate residence at the University of California. A minimum of five courses must be in the 200 or 500 series. Only 4 units of either Health Services 596 or 598 may be applied to the degree. Health Services 597 may not be applied toward the degree requirements. Students are strongly encouraged to take the following courses or their equivalents: Biostatistics 201A, 201B, Epidemiology 201A and 201B. Seven elective courses should be selected in consultation with an advisor. Electives may be chosen from offerings in the Department of Health Services, other departments in the School of Public Health, or other relevant Schools at UCLA.

Students with a prior doctoral-level degree (MD, PhD, J.D., DDS, or equivalent), and relevant experience, may elect to complete a program that includes 12 courses (52 units). Required courses include Health Services 200A, 200B, 237A, 237B, 237C, Biostatistics 200A, 200B, and Epidemiology 100. In addition, students must take four elective courses in Health Services, other departments in the School of Public Health, or other relevant Schools at UCLA. Elective courses should be selected in consultation with an advisor.

◆ Thesis Plan

If the thesis option is approved, a thesis committee is established. The committee approves the thesis prospectus before students file for advancement to candidacy. The thesis must be acceptable to the thesis committee.

◆ Comprehensive Examination/Report Plan

If the comprehensive examination/report plan is approved, a guidance committee of three faculty members is appointed. The comprehensive examination consists of an extensive written research report in the major area of study. It must be approved by the guidance committee which also must certify successful completion of all degree requirements.

◆ Time to Degree

From graduate admission to award of the degree (depending on the area of specialization), normal progress is from three to seven terms. The upper limit for completion of all requirements is seven quarters of enrollment, including graduate study at a University of California campus prior to admission to the School of Public Health. The maximum time allowed from enrollment to graduation, including leaves of absence, is five years.

DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH (DrPH)

The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) is a schoolwide degree and the highest professional degree for the public health generalist. Students are expected to focus on public health practice, leadership, and to acquire broad knowledge related to professional skills. The dissertation is of an applied, practical, problem-solving nature and must demonstrate ability for independent investigation. Health services is one of the areas of specialization. There is no foreign language requirement; teaching experience is recommended but not required.

◆ Admission Requirements

In addition to the University minimum requirements, (see the Graduate Study section in the UCLA General Catalog, www.registrar.ucla.edu/catalog), the department requires:

1. Satisfactory performance on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). The GRE requirement may be waived for applicants with a prior doctoral-level degree from a U.S. university. Please contact the department directly for further waiver information.

2. Completion of the MPH or a master’s degree in an appropriately related field is preferred.

3. At least a 3.0 junior/senior undergraduate grade-point average, at least a 3.5 GPA in graduate studies or demonstrated superiority in graduate work, and at least a B in each of the mandatory core courses.

4. A positive recommendation by the department to the School of Public Health.

5. Approval by the subcommittee on Student Affairs and the associate dean for academic programs.
Advising

Within the first three quarters of study, students file Doctoral Form 1, Petition for Establishment of Three-Member Guidance Committee for study for the DrPH. The guidance committee consists of three members, which must include the advisor in the major field. On Form 1, students list the courses to be taken for the major which must be approved by the advisor, the DrPH Program Director, and the department chair. For more information, see Advising under the General Regulations section of this announcement.

Course Requirements

The DrPH has a professional comprehensive orientation and prepares students for leadership positions in health services and public health administration. An MPH degree or equivalent is required, and full-time work experience in some aspect of public health is highly recommended. With full-time study, students may complete the DrPH in three years.

Students must take a minimum of six full courses (four must be at the 200 or 400 level) in at least two School of Public Health departments/programs other than Health Services.

In the first two years students are normally expected to complete 20 courses (84 units) beyond the MPH degree to develop mastery in (1) basic tools of social analysis, (2) health and disease in populations, (3) promotion of health and prevention of disease, and (4) health systems and their management. The specific course program depends on previous coursework and experience. The third year includes a practicum in a public or private health services organization, seminar courses (8 units) devoted to principles and strategies of health services leadership, and preparation of a problem-solving dissertation related to the practicum experience. (This practicum experience satisfies the requirement for the additional area of concentration noted above.)

Screening/Qualifying Examinations

No screening examination is required. Before advancement to candidacy, students must pass written examinations in the major field prepared and administered by the department faculty. Normally no more than one reexamination after failure is allowed. The doctoral committee is nominated after students have made a tentative decision on a dissertation topic. The doctoral committee administers the University Oral Qualifying Examination after the written examinations have been successfully completed.

Doctoral Committee

The doctoral committee consists of at least four faculty members who hold professorial appointments, two of whom must be tenured. Three of the four must hold appointments in the School of Public Health, one must be an outside member who holds no appointment in the School of Public Health, and one of the four must be from the minor field.

Final Oral Examination

A final oral examination is required of all candidates.

Time to Degree

Normally students are not admitted to the DrPH program until after they have completed a master’s degree. If students have not completed a prior master’s degree program, this program must be completed. Admission to the doctoral program should take place by the sixth quarter in residence, and the written and oral qualifying examinations should be completed by the tenth quarter in residence. If students have completed a master’s degree program, the written and oral examinations should be completed by the sixth quarter in residence. Four quarters are normally taken from completion of the oral qualifying examination to the final oral defense. The maximum time allowed in the program is 20 enrolled quarters or eight years.

This limitation includes graduate study at a University of California campus prior to admission to the doctoral degree program and leaves of absence. However, the approved normative time-to-degree is 18 quarters (six years). For more information, refer to Standards and Procedures for Graduate Study at UCLA.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) IN HEALTH SERVICES

The PhD in Health Services is an advanced research degree that emphasizes depth of knowledge and research skills. The dissertation must demonstrate ability for independent scholarly investigation. There is no foreign...
language requirement for the PhD; teaching experience is recommended but not required.

◆ Admission Requirements

In addition to the University minimum requirements, (see the Graduate Study section in the UCLA General Catalog, www.registrar.ucla.edu/catalog), the department requires:

1. Satisfactory performance on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). The GRE requirement may be waived for applicants with a doctoral-level degree from a U.S. university.
2. Completion of the MS in Health Services or an appropriately related field is preferred.
3. At least a 3.0 junior/senior undergraduate grade-point average, at least a 3.5 GPA in graduate studies or demonstrated superiority in graduate work, and at least a B in each of the mandatory core courses.
4. A positive recommendation by the department to the School of Public Health.
5. Approval by the doctoral admissions committee and the department chair.
6. Submission of a writing sample, preferably a master’s thesis or equivalent. Screening examinations may be required.

◆ Course Requirements

In addition to the requirements for the MS in Health Services, students must take Health Services 249I, Biostatistics 200A, and 200B. A cognate with at least three courses (12 units) from a department that grants a PhD degree is also required. Cognate courses must be at the graduate level and should be core theory and research courses for the discipline selected. Acceptable cognate areas include economics, epidemiology, management, political science, psychology, sociology, health care outcomes research, pharmaceutical economics, and policy studies.

◆ Qualifying Examinations

Before advancement to candidacy, students must pass a written examination in Health Services, complete the requirements in a cognate field, and pass an oral qualifying examination on the subject of the student’s dissertation research. Normally no more than one reexamination is allowed. When students are ready to take the University Oral Qualifying Examination, a doctoral committee is nominated.

After passing the University Oral Qualifying Examination, students may be advanced to candidacy and commence work on a dissertation in the principal field of study. The doctoral committee supervises the progress toward completion of the dissertation.

◆ Final Oral Examination

A final oral examination is required of all candidates.