

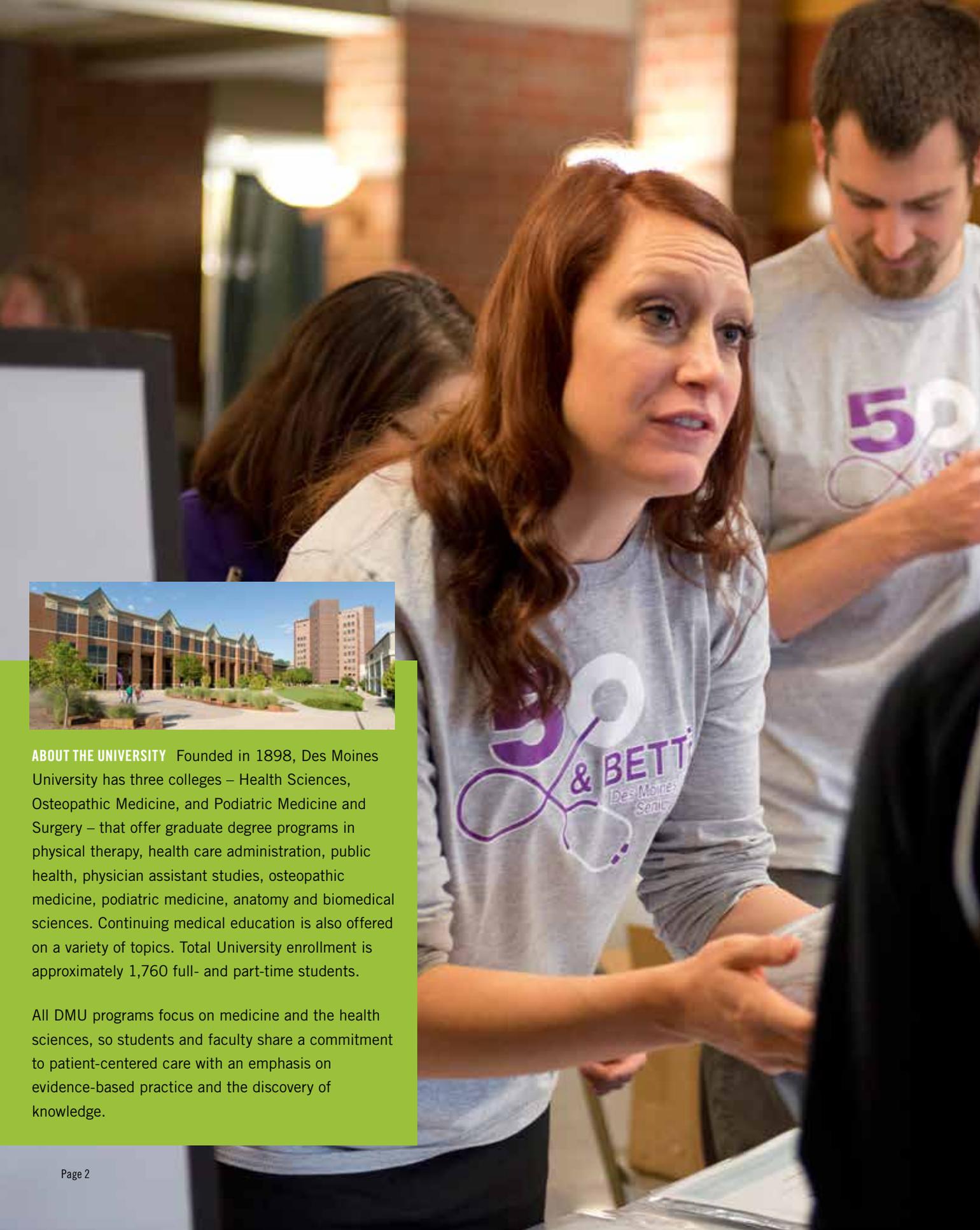
one degree,
countless careers



MASTER OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

DES MOINES UNIVERSITY





ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY Founded in 1898, Des Moines University has three colleges – Health Sciences, Osteopathic Medicine, and Podiatric Medicine and Surgery – that offer graduate degree programs in physical therapy, health care administration, public health, physician assistant studies, osteopathic medicine, podiatric medicine, anatomy and biomedical sciences. Continuing medical education is also offered on a variety of topics. Total University enrollment is approximately 1,760 full- and part-time students.

All DMU programs focus on medicine and the health sciences, so students and faculty share a commitment to patient-centered care with an emphasis on evidence-based practice and the discovery of knowledge.



What can you do with an M.P.H. degree? Plenty.

Des Moines University's master's degree program in public health (M.P.H.) will equip you to advance your career while improving the health of communities and populations on a local, regional and even global level. Whether you want to work within an organization to enhance wellness, design and evaluate policies, conduct research, analyze data or examine communities and populations, the degree opens doors to numerous rewarding roles.

M.P.H. graduates have a measurable impact on our quality of life far beyond individual patient care. They work in settings including public health departments, government, health care organizations, schools, research centers, managed care systems and more. These individuals lead efforts to prevent and fight disease and injury, promote healthy lifestyles through education and access, and reduce environmental hazards.

LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREER PATHS IN PUBLIC HEALTH: *Visit the American Public Health Association's website at www.apha.org.*

A DEGREE IN ACTION: *"I have gotten so much out of the M.P.H. program and out of the University," says Caitlin Molsberry Suginaka. She participated in a DMU health services trip in Honduras one spring break and landed an internship the following summer with the Pan American Health Organization in Washington, DC. She contributed to a major PAHO report on noncommunicable diseases in countries in North, South and Central America.*

Then, for her M.P.H. internship, Suginaka worked with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Robert Anda, M.D., co-author of a groundbreaking study in 1997 that found a strong relationship between adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and health in adulthood. She interviewed key leaders in several states to learn how they were responding to the study's findings. She also helped plan a summit about ACEs in Iowa.

Now a quality assurance program manager for the state home visitation program of the Iowa Department of Public Health, she and her colleagues design and implement programs that support healthy home environments and stable family relationships.

Students in all DMU programs, including the M.P.H. program, share information and resources at the University's largest student-run event, the annual Senior Health Fair.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



EXPERIENCE THE ADVANTAGES OF DMU'S M.P.H. PROGRAM

The program has world-class accreditation

DMU's M.P.H. program is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), an independent agency that protects the interests of students and public by evaluating schools and programs of public health. That means DMU's program fulfills CEPH's mission of assuring quality in public health education and training to achieve excellence in practice, research and service, and shares CEPH's values of high quality and innovation in process and outcomes and consistency, fairness and transparency.



You will learn today and lead tomorrow

The Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice defines core competencies for public health

professionals. The competencies provide a framework for hiring and evaluating staff and identifying gaps in skills and knowledge. DMU's public health program's curriculum and course content reflect these competencies:

- Analytical and assessment skills
- Policy development and program planning skills
- Communication skills
- Cultural competency skills
- Community dimensions of practice skills
- Public health sciences skills
- Financial planning and management skills
- Leadership and systems thinking skills

Gaining competencies in each of these domains will allow you to plan your education to reach your goals; acquire knowledge and skills you can apply both immediately and throughout in your career; improve the health of populations through practical class projects; and incorporate

practices and protocols that drive research, scholarly activity and data collection.

You will interact with purposeful, passionate people

The M.P.H. faculty are experts in public health whose top priorities are your learning and success. These thoughtful, high-achieving scholars, all of whom are engaged in research and professional leadership activities, work to prepare a wide variety of students for a wide variety of careers. They understand students' desire for a return on their educational investment, and they deliver on it.

The program attracts highly motivated students from all settings in public health and health care from across the country and around the world, further enriching the learning experience. You also will learn from current public health practitioners and leaders who serve as part-time faculty.

Dr. Rachel Reimer discusses career options with a prospective student at a recent networking event organized by the MPH Student Club.

MISSION

To provide an excellent, competency-based, interdisciplinary education that prepares public health leaders who preserve and promote health in our global community.

VALUES

Excellence: Demonstrate outstanding performance in all teaching & learning, research, and service activities.

Integrity: Demonstrate the highest degree of moral and ethical behavior.

Diversity: Value the unique and various backgrounds, experiences, and beliefs of our faculty, staff, students, and communities we serve.

Social Justice: A commitment to improving health and reducing health disparities.

Community: A commitment to community partnerships that promote student learning, professional growth, and enhanced public health practice.

VISION

To improve health for all through our commitment to innovative education, scholarship, service, and advancement of public health.

You'll be part of a welcoming community

Whether you are taking courses online or on campus, you will enjoy personal interaction and an engaging learning environment. The Master of Public Health Student Club, one of DMU's more than 70 clubs and professional organizations, offers students and local health professionals opportunities to learn and network, both in person and via technology. When you do come to campus, you can utilize the amenities of the Student Education Center, including the library, café and comfy study areas. Take advantage of DMU's wellness program, the nation's first and only university/college-based program to earn platinum status, the highest recognition of the Wellness Councils of America. Or take a break in Des Moines, Iowa's user-friendly capital. The city offers countless options for dining, shopping, entertainment, recreation and more.

Meet our faculty



RACHEL REIMER, PH.D.

Associate Professor, Chair and Program Director

Dr. Reimer teaches in courses on community research methods, social and behavioral science and health interventions. A prolific researcher on a wide variety of public health topics, she is a peer reviewer for several health-related journals and frequently advises students on their capstone projects. M.P.H. students have selected Dr. Reimer as recipient of the program's Faculty of the Year Award four times since she joined the full-time faculty in 2009.



CAROLYN BEVERLY, M.D., M.P.H.

Assistant Professor

Dr. Beverly's teaching areas include human health and disease, epidemiology, disaster management, cultural competency and community health program planning and evaluation. A diplomat for the National Board of Medical Examiners, she is active in numerous professional and civic organizations, including the Polk County, Iowa, Medical Society, National Medical Association and American Heart Association Metro Board. She also has served on many DMU committees on topics ranging from program quality improvement to the reduction of depression among medical students.



PAMELA DUFFY, P.T., PH.D., M.ED., OCS, RP, FAPTA

Assistant Professor, Public Health and Global Health

Dr. Duffy teaches courses on the U.S. health care system and global health topics. She also lectures in DMU's physical therapy program and is a strong advocate for the profession and its patients, activities in which she trains students. Named a 2014 Catherine Worthingham Fellow, the highest honor of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), Dr. Duffy is past president of the Iowa Physical Therapy Association and an Iowa delegate to the APTA House of Delegates. She conducts qualitative research on health care access among minority and immigrant populations.



SIMON GELETTA, PH.D.

Associate Professor

Dr. Geletta teaches courses on biostatistics and research methods. He is an active researcher and recipient of internal and external grants to investigate topics including the design and evaluation of health education disease prevention programs; infant mortality patterns; and ecological factors that affect a community's health. He also has led grant-supported research and efforts to increase awareness among African Americans in central Iowa about their risk for high blood pressure.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE & CURRICULUM

Global health service trips offer opportunities for M.P.H. students to educate people on ways to keep their communities and themselves healthier.



A DEGREE IN ACTION: Sarah McCool, a graduate of Des Moines University's master of public health program, calls a course on global health policy her "aha moment." It led her to an internship with the World Health Organization and a volunteer role with Visitation Health Foundation (VHF), a Nashville-based health and health education organization that operates a clinic in rural Haiti. She's now VHF's executive director. "Thanks to DMU, I found my passion and profession," McCool says.

Got goals? DMU's M.P.H. program will help you achieve them, whether you're a recent college graduate or a working professional. Students getting started in the profession can explore a variety of career options as they develop a real-world portfolio. Individuals who are more established gain knowledge they can apply immediately in their work and in advancing their careers.

Courses

You can complete your degree on campus, online or with a mix of online and on-campus courses, so it is flexible and convenient as well as rigorous. Online courses are also surprisingly interactive among faculty and students who may be in different countries and time zones. Studies show that students who complete degree requirements online achieve the same outcomes and results as those who attend classes on campus. Either way, you have options.

Electives

One of the features of the M.P.H. program is its flexibility. Students can follow a general course of study and select electives that support their professional and academic objectives.

Electives reflect beneficial skills and public health issues, including bioterrorism, health promotion, nutrition, health GIS and grant-writing. In addition, M.P.H. students can take any course in DMU's master of health care administration program as an elective. Recent electives include:

- Global Health Policy, Practice and Partnerships
- Infectious Diseases of Humans and Animals
- Secondary Data Analysis

Internship and capstone

In addition to completing formal course work, M.P.H. degree candidates complete a 180-hour internship in a public health setting to expand

M.P.H. CORE CURRICULUM AND SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE

		CREDITS
TIER 1	M.P.H. 620: Introduction to Graduate School and the M.P.H. Program	1
	M.P.H. 621: Overview of the U.S. Health Care System	3
	M.P.H. 650: Basic Statistics & Research	3
	PH 657: Survey of Human Health and Disease*	3
TIER 2	M.P.H. 645: Health Services Program Evaluation	3
	M.P.H. 652: Public Health Law, Ethics and Policy	3
	M.P.H. 654: Social & Behavioral Sciences	3
	M.P.H. 655: Epidemiology	3
TIER 3	M.P.H. 625: Health Care Financial Management I	3
	M.P.H. 651: Environmental and Occupational Health	3
	M.P.H. 653: Public Health Administration & Management	3
	M.P.H. 671: Community Research Methods	3
TIER 4	M.P.H. 658: Public Health Internship	3
	M.P.H. 660: Public Health Capstone	2

Total semester hours of core: 39

Total semester hours of electives: 6

Total semester hours for M.P.H. degree: 45

* Required for students who do not have clinical experience. If students have clinical experience, they are encouraged to speak with their academic adviser regarding a replacement course.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE & CURRICULUM

their knowledge of pertinent public health issues and benefit their academic and career goals. Students develop and complete a portfolio at the conclusion of their internship. This exercise includes the final self-evaluation of student achievement on the professional competencies. It also challenges the student to provide evidence to support a personal evaluation.

By the end of the program, students have a clear picture of their accomplishments. This exercise reinforces the importance of self-evaluation using the perspectives of others to build an objective view of self and the ability to use this process to build a continued development plan (lifelong learning).

The capstone is a culminating project that allows students to use knowledge gleaned from their degree program experiences. Students choose projects that let them demonstrate their understanding of theory and principles learned in course work and apply them in a professional practice situation.

Faculty use the capstone to evaluate whether the student has mastered the program's competencies.

In their internships and capstones, DMU'S M.P.H. students gain experiences in local and state public health. Recent sites include the following:

- Albuquerque Area Indian Health Services
- Arizona Department of Health Services
- Blank Children's Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Cincinnati Children's Hospital
- Iowa Department of Public Health
- Johnson County, Iowa, Public Health Department
- Lake Area Memory Awareness Advocates
- Meals on Wheels
- Palm Beach County, Florida, Health Department
- Polk County, Iowa, Department of Public Health
- Portage Health System, Western Upper Peninsula, Michigan
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Navy
- Wyoming Department of Health
- Youth Emergency Services and Shelter

A DEGREE IN ACTION: For her M.P.H. capstone project, *Maren Lenhart – previously a dental assistant – became an oral health consultant with the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation. She researched data about oral health access for aging Iowans and children and produced a proposal to enhance the foundation's school-based dental sealant program. Her efforts, along with \$170,000 from the foundation and collaboration with the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, established 11 new sealant programs in underserved schools and expanded those services from five to 32 counties.*

Now a public benefit planning analyst with the foundation, Lenhart received the 2014 Lee Holder Award for Excellence in Graduate Allied Health Education of the Alpha Eta Society, the national scholastic honor society for the allied health professions. "The M.P.H. program is a great value," she says. "The instructors are fantastic, it offers many opportunities to use one's skills and the topics are relevant and real-world."



MORE ADVANTAGES IN YOUR EDUCATION

Global health experiences: DMU

works with students who are interested in global health to complete an internship or capstone abroad. The University has unique global health partnerships with the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with sites reserved for DMU students. In fact, in 2015 two of the four students in these “Global Health Pathways of Distinction” positions are M.P.H. students.

Courses are offered to help students prepare for cultures and health conditions they will encounter during global health experiences.

Clinical dual degree option: Students in DMU’s doctor of osteopathic medicine, doctor of podiatric medicine and surgery, physician assistant and doctor of physical therapy programs can pursue a dual degree leading to a master’s degree in public health. This option lets students combine their clinical knowledge and practice

with expertise gained in the master’s degree program, helping their patients and enhancing their professional options and career. Because of the flexibility of M.P.H. course schedules, students are able to pursue the M.P.H. degree alongside their clinical degree program. For more information, visit www.dmu.edu/mph/dual-degree.

M.P.H. and pharmacy degrees:

Pharmacists are in a unique position to promote health for both individuals and communities. DMU and Drake University’s College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences offer joint M.P.H. and doctor of pharmacy degrees to equip graduates to understand population health and the health care system to take on leadership roles at local, regional and national levels; conduct research and engage in policy activities. Students begin at Drake and apply to the DMU M.P.H. program during the fall semester of their second professional year. For more information, contact DMU’s M.P.H. program director.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How long will it take to earn the master’s degree?

A: You can complete the M.P.H. program in two years as a full-time student and less than three years as a part-time student.

Q: Can I earn the degree online?

A: Yes, you can earn the M.P.H. degree entirely online.

Q: What is the application deadline?

A: Applications are accepted throughout the year, with deadlines several months prior to the start of the term. New students are admitted for the fall, spring and summer terms. Visit the program’s website for specific deadlines.

Q: What kind of undergraduate degree do I need to qualify for admission?

A: We accept a bachelor’s degree in any field from a regionally accredited college or university.

Q: Are graduate test scores such as the GRE required?

A: The GRE is required for admission.

Q: Can I transfer credits from another program or receive credit for a previously earned master’s degree?

A: Faculty will review previously earned graduate credit for transfer after a student is admitted to the M.P.H. program.



On campus and in community settings, DMU students are known for their volunteerism that benefits multiple causes and populations.



A DEGREE IN ACTION: Brian Ferguson is a dual-degree DMU student in the M.P.H. program and the osteopathic medical program. Previously an astrophysics data and research analyst for the Space Telescope Science Institute, he sought a career in health care to improve the lives of others. He applied both his public health and individual patient care interests during his internship with the World Health Organization, during which he was immersed in a huge global challenge – the impact of poor-quality childhood development.

His research inspired his belief that early childhood development and intervention programs can improve the survival, growth and health of vulnerable children. The experience also affirmed his career choice. “In my professional aspirations, I am now more interested in becoming a true patient advocate,” he says, “whether I am assisting with an intervention in a single patient or a country of patients.”

M.P.H. STUDENTS BY THE NUMBERS

- Approximately 160 students from more than 20 states and five nations
- Less than three years typically required to complete the degree
- Students range in age from 21 to 64; the average age is 34
- Average GPA of incoming students is 3.40
- 314 DMU M.P.H. alumni live and work in 42 states

THE ADMISSION PROCESS

The DMU M.P.H. program seeks a wide range of degree candidates who have strong academic backgrounds, are passionate about improving health and who are self-motivated to increase their knowledge of public health and its application.

Admission to the M.P.H. program requires a posted baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university and GRE scores. A minimum GPA of 3.00 is strongly recommended for consideration.

All applicants must submit the following for admission consideration:

- **Online application form and \$60 application fee**
- **Official transcripts of all post-secondary course work**
- **Current resumé with descriptive work history**
- **At least one letter of recommendation**
- **GRE scores**
- **Personal statement**

Admission criteria are subject to change; all current information is posted on the website. Applications are accepted throughout the year. Faculty review completed files after each deadline, taking into account each applicant's academic performance, GRE scores, public health work, service and/or research experience, and potential for public health leadership. Only files completed by the deadline will be eligible for admission consideration for the upcoming term.

Once you have submitted all required application materials, you will receive confirmation from DMU. Applicants are notified of the admission decision within weeks of the deadline. Accepted students are required to submit a nonrefundable \$250 tuition seat deposit, which is credited toward their first-term tuition, and to complete a criminal background check.

For detailed admission requirements, visit the website at www.dmu.edu/mph/how-to-apply.

We encourage prospective applicants to contact the admissions office for assistance with application questions.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT

You are required to have a computer with reliable Internet access (high speed preferred). You are also expected to be familiar with the Internet and have basic computer skills. See www.dmu.edu/mph/admission-requirements for more specific requirements.

FOREIGN DEGREES AND ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-NATIVE APPLICANTS

Applicants whose course work or degree was earned outside the U.S. must submit transcripts to the World Education Service (www.wes.org) for a course-by-course evaluation.

Applicants whose native language is not English and who have not earned an undergraduate or graduate degree at a school where the medium of instruction is English must submit Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores (www.ets.org). International students who obtained a degree where English was the language of instruction are required to provide documentation from the institution stating such.

All students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible for admission to earn the M.P.H. degree through the online format only.

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

For current tuition rates and information on financial aid at DMU, visit the University's website or contact the Financial Aid Office at 800-240-2767, ext. 1470, or 515-271-1470; e-mail, financial.aid@dmu.edu.



ACCREDITATION: The M.P.H. program is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (www.ceph.org or www.dmu.edu/mph/program-strengths). Des Moines University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION: Des Moines University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability in employment, admission, or access to education programs, activities, or health care.

DEFINITION OF DIVERSITY: Diversity at Des Moines University is a campus environment shaped by individuals and groups that offer a broad spectrum of cultural differences, life experiences, and distinct characteristics. These include, but are not limited to, educational background and performance, gender, race, age, socio-economic background, leadership qualities, employment experiences, talents, geographical background, and other attributes that affirm the University's commitment to creating an inclusive environment.

DISABILITY STATEMENT: Qualified individuals with disabilities who seek accommodations should refer to "Policy on Special Accommodations in Educational Programming" and make application for such accommodations pursuant to the procedures set forth in that policy. See www.dmu.edu/mph/how-to-apply for the link to the DMU policy.

This brochure has been prepared for general information purposes only. Des Moines University reserves the right to make program changes without notice. Tuition may be adjusted annually at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. 2K 01-15

QUESTIONS?

Give us a call or reach us via e-mail at mphadmit@dmu.edu. For more information about the M.P.H. program, visit our website at www.dmu.edu.

HOW TO REACH US

M.P.H. Program Admissions
Des Moines University
3200 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312-4198
515-271-1499

Outside the 515 area code, call 1-800-240-2767, x1499
mphadmit@dmu.edu



**DES MOINES
UNIVERSITY
DOING A WORLD
OF GOOD.**

