

What is Population Health?

Population health is a systems-based approach to improving health outcomes that joins strategies from public health, wellness promotion, chronic disease prevention and management, and complex care into a cohesive discipline. It examines the social, economic, political, environmental, and cultural factors that affect the health of a population – the social determinants of health – and analyzes the effectiveness of social and community interventions, health policy, and evidence-based health care delivery models.

Our nation needs new approaches to improve the health of our communities. Population health strategies foster collaboration with diverse sectors, including education, social welfare, housing, transportation, environmental protection, and economic development.

The College of Population Health (COPH), one of only five institutions of its kind in the U.S., serves New Mexico's communities, government and non-profit agencies, businesses, and health-related organizations.

Our graduates will bring to the workplace a unique interdisciplinary perspective and skills to address the complex relationships that affect health outcomes.

The College is dedicated to advancing population health education and research to promote positive health outcomes and improve patient care.

The College cultivates partnerships between the University of New Mexico and the community to improve the health of New Mexicans.

The College is guided by the principles of diversity, health equity, social justice, creating a culture of excellence, and earning the trust of our communities.



COLLEGE OF POPULATION HEALTH

PhD in Health Equity Sciences

New Mexico needs a workforce with the core knowledge and flexibility to adapt to a rapidly changing landscape in public health, wellness, disease prevention, and healthcare delivery.

COPH graduates will be prepared to meet these challenges. They will play a key role in ensuring our nation's health and well-being, enabling people to lead happier, healthier, and more productive lives.

coph.unm.edu
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TRANSFORM LIVES. CHANGE THE WORLD.

We are excited to announce our new PhD program

PhD in Health Equity Sciences

The COPH doctorate program integrates the rich history of public health with the more contemporary discipline of population health to provide graduates with a rigorous competency-based degree. The advanced comprehensive training will prepare graduates for positions in settings such as:

- local, state, federal, and global governmental institutions
- non-governmental agencies
- public health
- social justice organizations
- health care provider organizations
- higher learning institutions

The PhD in Health Equity Sciences consists of 66 credit hours total:

- 23 credit hours of core coursework
- 13 credit hours of PH credits
- 12 credit hours of concentration specific coursework
- 18 credit hours of dissertation coursework

The COPH will offer the following concentrations:

- Epidemiology
- Global Health Equity and Policy
- Community Based Participatory Research
- Community Health Education
- Biostatistics

Students interested in the PhD program at UNM College of Population Health need to:

1. You are encouraged to meet with an advisor (cophadvising@unm.edu) prior to submitting your application to ensure it is complete.
2. **Apply through SOPHAS (sophas.org)**

Admissions Criteria

1. Applicants must hold a graduate master's degree. Preference is given to applicants holding a Master in Public Health (MPH) degree from a CEPH accredited program or another health- or medical-related degree. In some instances, students with a bachelor's level degree will be considered for admittance.
2. Documented experience in the form of research, job experience, completion of a master's thesis, or other similar experience, including work in non-governmental agencies (NGOs).GPA of 3.0 or higher.
3. One graduate-level coursework in statistics or biostatistics.
4. Two-page statement of interest describing professional experience, research interests, career aspirations, and experiences that have prepared the applicant for doctoral work.
5. Three letters of recommendation:
 - one from a faculty member who has worked with the applicant in a research capacity,
 - one from a faculty member who taught a class attended by the applicant,
 - and one from an individual of the applicant's choosing.
6. Preference will be given to applicants who have submitted a thesis during their master's coursework or have completed a comparable extended project or publication.

Is Population Health for YOU?

- Do you value diversity, self-reflection and critical analysis?
- Do you have a passion for affecting change in your community?
- Do you desire to improve health equity, making healthcare fair and accessible to all?
- Are you interested in improving health outcomes to promote the public's health?

If you are contemplating which program is right for you, talk with an advisor about your interests. You will receive guidance for a degree plan that best fits your career goals.

Please contact an advisor at cophadvising@unm.edu.

