

COMBINED MBS PROGRAM:

Master of Public Health

A Master of Public Health (MPH) degree can open up a wide variety of career paths for physicians; they can use the MPH degree to advance academic, administrative, or population caring skills. For those students who decide not to pursue physician or other clinical training, the MPH educational path provides the opportunity for MBS students to pursue a career path where they can use their knowledge and skills in both the basic sciences and the population sciences in productive ways.

“Public health is a form of applied social justice. It’s about making sure the benefits that modern times have brought us—wealth, knowledge, technology—are translated into better health status not just for the few, the rich, and the powerful, but for everybody.”

— Dr. Anthony Schlaff, Director, Public Health Programs

MBS/MPH Program Overview

MBS/MPH candidates are able to explore public health and earn two degrees while strengthening their biomedical science skills and their credentials for medical school. The MBS/MPH pathway consolidates the typical 18-month MPH program so that students can obtain both the MBS and MPH degrees after their second year of coursework. MBS/MPH students need only to complete 36 credits (out of a usual 42 credit program) in order to earn the MPH degree.

Students in the MBS/MPH program may choose from four MPH Concentrations:

Nutrition

Health Services, Management, and Policy

Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Behavioral Science and Health Communication

To complete the MBS/MPH program, students will enroll in Epidemiology or Biostatistics during the spring semester of their first year in the MBS program. Their studies continue for a second year, during which they complete the MBS thesis and MPH practicum/capstone requirements.

Questions?

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School of
Medicine

Careers in Public Health for Clinicians

The multidisciplinary nature of public health ensures a wide variety of jobs across a broad work arena. Many who earn degrees in public health apply their knowledge and expertise to clinical care within their own practice, or the institutions or health networks within which they work.

Sample Job Titles of Graduates:

Prevention Specialist, CDC	General Council Health Policy Advisor, MA State Senate
Policy Analyst, Boston Public Health Commission	Program Coordinator, Boston Medical Center
Clinical Nurse Specialist, Emerson Hospital	Health Care Quality Data Analyst, Quincy Medical Center
Tobacco Control Specialist, RI Department of Health	Nutrition Policy Advocate, California Food Policy Advocates
Nurse Educator, Brigham and Women's Hospital	Policy Director, MA Association of Community Health Workers
Clinical Pharmacist, Tufts Medical Center	

Admissions Process and Requirements

Interested students may apply to the MBS/MPH program either at the same time they are applying for the MBS program (before they have enrolled) or during the spring semester of their first or second year in the MBS program.

Applying Prior to Enrollment

Students applying to the MBS/MPH program as new students should follow all instructions and deadlines to apply for the stand-alone MBS program. In the application, students can choose to apply to the dual degree, and will be notified of their admission to both programs at the same time. Enrollment in the MPH portion of the program is contingent upon successful completion of the first year of MBS coursework.

Applying as an Enrolled MBS Student

Students who are currently enrolled in the MBS program may apply to join the MBS/MPH program during the spring of their first year in the program. To do so, they must submit a short application to the combined degree program by **March 15**.

The short application requires students to provide **an updated resume, a short essay, and one new letter of recommendation** (usually from someone in the MBS program). These materials are combined with the students MBS application from the prior year for review for admission to the MBS/MPH program.

Admissions decisions for this cohort will be released in late-March or early-April.