

PhD in Biomedical Sciences, Clinical and Population Health Research

MORNINGSIDE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The PhD in Biomedical Sciences, Clinical and Population Health Research (CPHR) program offers specialized training focused on the intersection of epidemiology, biostatistics and health services research in an interdisciplinary approach. Rigorous academic instruction is provided to ensure success as an independent and collaborative science investigator. The curriculum is highly customized to fit students' research interests and goals. In addition to coursework, students pursue about 20 hours a week of hands-on research and participate in journal clubs, seminars and professional development. They also serve as teaching assistants for one or more terms.



Why choose the PhD in Biomedical Sciences, Clinical and Population Health Research?

The program matches students with mentors and provides individualized career planning in a supportive environment. Faculty have expertise in various areas including aging, health disparities, health promotion and disease prevention which helps students become independent and collaborative investigators through our transdisciplinary research training. The program is small, with fewer than 10 students entering each year. Students pursue quantitative and qualitative research in state-of-the-art lab and research facilities.



World-class facilities and clinical settings

The three graduate schools at UMass Chan Medical School share a campus with a top-tier hospital as well as biomedical research core facilities including two high-end cryo-electron microscopes, providing students with an interprofessional, hands-on learning environment. A 350,000-square-foot new education and research building, slated to open in 2024, will include space for more than 70 principal investigators in gene therapy, neuroscience and human genetics and for the educational enterprise.

Curriculum

Students develop a curriculum tailored to meet their needs based on previous accomplishments, research interests and educational goals. Students are required to successfully complete:

- Epidemiology (6 credits)
- Biostatistics (8 credits)
- Ethics (2 credits)
- Proposal Development (3 credits)
- 4 credits of theory (selected based on research interests)
- 6 credits substantive electives (selected based on research interests)
- 8 credits of methods electives (selected based on research interests)

Program details:

CPHR is a full-time, on campus program. The program requires a thesis and takes approximately four years on average to complete. Participants receive a competitive financial package, including a generous stipend for the duration of the program, transition assistance, health insurance and a full tuition and fee waiver.



Postgraduate preparation

Graduates pursue academic teaching and research positions, post-doctoral fellowships, or clinical research in related industries. Recent examples include:

- Research Scientist, VA Healthcare System
- Postdoctoral Associate, Tufts University
- Postdoctoral Associate, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- Evaluation Fellow, Center for Disease Control & Prevention
- Medical Writer, Corbus Pharmaceuticals

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to have a master's degree in public health or related discipline in biostatistics, epidemiology, economics or other discipline with quantitative training OR a PharmD, MD, or other relevant doctoral degree earned prior to matriculation. A master's degree is not required for those who have recently completed a postbaccalaureate research education program. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher is strongly preferred.

The following prerequisite coursework is required, with successful applicants typically having the classes completed with a B grade or better. One year of graduate level biostatistics and one year of epidemiology or other research methods training with a B or better.

- Experience in research settings preferred, and the ability to engage in quantitative or qualitative research

Additional application requirements are listed below:

- Submitted application and non-refundable \$80 application fee
- Unofficial transcripts from any college attended
- A personal statement of two pages describing:
 - educational expectations
 - career aspirations
 - research experience
 - special qualifications
 - which faculty or research programs at UMass Chan with which you would like to engage
- Resume or CV
- Three letters of recommendation from individuals who can assess past academic performance, research experience and prospective success in doctoral level work
- International applicants are required to submit an official course-by-course evaluation from a NACES member and unofficial TOEFL or IELTS scores.

Office of Admissions

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Biomedical Sciences

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Request
information!

