The Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) in Public Health program is a professional degree program that builds knowledge and skills in the areas of systems thinking, evidence-based public health, leadership, program planning and management, public health and health systems, communication, and interprofessional practice. In addition, the M.P.H. in Public Health program advances expertise in community and behavioral health, epidemiology and biostatistics, global health, and health systems organization and policy. The M.P.H. degree leads to careers in a wide variety of fields and settings, including local, state, and federal government agencies; health care settings; health insurance industry; health services networks; nonprofits; and the pharmaceutical industry.

The Doctor of Public Health (Dr.P.H.) in Public Health program is a professional degree program that provides advanced public health education and training to prepare its graduates for evidence-based practice and leadership in the application of translational science and implementation research findings. It allows graduates to pursue career opportunities in the federal, state, and local government, as well as in the non-profit, academic, and private sectors. Educationally it places an emphasis on discovery, teaching, integration, and application with a primary purpose of bridging research and practice to protect and improve the public's health. The Dr.P.H. builds on Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) competency domains and, as a professional degree, integrates public health practice and project-based learning with local, state, and federal networks to enrich learning in health policy and program development and implementation. Dr.P.H. program of study includes course work, an advanced field experience, and integrative doctoral research and provides an opportunity for further specialization within a specified cognate.

### Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).

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**Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)**

Admission to the Penn State M.P.H. Program is granted jointly by the M.P.H. Program and the Graduate School at Penn State.

For admission to the M.P.H. Program, applicants must submit:

- Completed online Graduate School application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply) with nonrefundable application fee
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Statement of purpose
- Two letters of recommendation
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission)
- Official scores from one of the following standardized tests taken within the past five years; Graduate Record Examination (GRE), Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), or Law School Admission Test (LSAT)

Standardized Test Requirement Waiver 1: This requirement is waived for applicants who have an advanced degree beyond the baccalaureate.

Standardized Test Requirement Waiver 2: This requirement may be waived at the discretion of the program for applicants who, prior to submitting the application for admission, have successfully completed (with a grade of B or better in each course):

- At least one 3-credit graduate-level course in biostatistics; AND
- At least one 3-credit graduate-level course in epidemiology; AND
- At least one 3-credit graduate-level course in the social and behavioral sciences or health services administration core areas of public health.

**Doctor of Public Health (Dr.P.H.)**

For admission to the Dr.P.H. Program, applicants must submit:

- Completed online Graduate School application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply) with nonrefundable application fee
- Three recommenders to provide letters of academic and professional reference
- Statement of purpose
- Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores taken within the past five years
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission)
- CV or resume
Degree Requirements

Master of Public Health (M.P.H.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Requirements (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).

M.P.H. students must complete a total of 42 credits of graduate level course work, the majority of which are 500-level courses, specifically.

- 24 credits in prescribed courses, including:
  - 18 credits of core classroom-based courses
  - 3 credit practicum experience
  - 3 credit capstone
- 18 credits in elective courses

The Capstone Course (PHS 894) provides the students with the knowledge and skills to design, carry out, and present a scholarly public health project based upon competencies gained in previous courses. Topics include defining a scholarly project, selecting a topic and project type, describing the problem, reviewing the literature, identifying project methodology, presenting project results, ethics and scholarly work, writing and critiquing scholarly work, and creating and delivering a poster presentation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHS 809</td>
<td>Principles of Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 504 or BBH 504</td>
<td>Behavioral Health Intervention Strategies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 520</td>
<td>Principles of Biostatistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 536</td>
<td>Health Survey Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 550</td>
<td>Principles of Epidemiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 571 or HPA 520</td>
<td>Health Services Organization and Delivery</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 895A</td>
<td>Master of Public Health Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

Select 18 credits from a list of approved courses that is maintained by the graduate program office. Multiple tracks of specialization are available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHS 896A</td>
<td>Integrative Doctoral Research I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 896B</td>
<td>Integrative Doctoral Research II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 60

Doctor of Public Health (Dr.P.H.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Requirements (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).

Dr.P.H. students must complete a minimum of 60 credits of graduate-level course work beyond a master's degree, the majority of which are 500-level and 800-level courses, specifically.

- 24 credits in prescribed, core classroom-based courses
- 21 credits in elective courses
  - 9 credits of track elective courses
  - 12 credits of general (cognate) elective courses
- 15 additional credits

- 6 credits of Advanced Field Experience
- 9 credits of Integrative Doctoral Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHS 575</td>
<td>Integrative Seminar in Public Health Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 576</td>
<td>Integrative Seminar in Public Health Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 577</td>
<td>Integrative Seminar in Social &amp; Behavioral Determinants of Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 554</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 555</td>
<td>Statistical Methods for Public Health II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADTED 550</td>
<td>Qualitative Research in Adult Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 806</td>
<td>Public Health Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 892</td>
<td>Directed Studies in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 895B</td>
<td>Advanced Field Experience</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives

Select 21 credits from a list of approved courses that is maintained by the graduate program office. Multiple tracks of specialization are available.

Culminating Experience

Select 18 credits from a list of approved courses that is maintained by the graduate program office. Multiple tracks of specialization are available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHS 894</td>
<td>Capstone Experience (Capstone Course)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 42

Residency requirement

The Doctor of Public Health requires 24 core credits to be taken in residence as a registered student engaged in academic work at the Hershey and Harrisburg campuses.

Additional Course Requirements for Applicants without a Master of Public Health

Applicants must have a graduate (e.g. master’s) or advanced professional (e.g., M.D.) degree. Applicants without a Master of Public Health or related degree are required to take core courses to ensure a firm foundation in discipline-specific M.P.H. competency domains. These foundation courses include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHS 809</td>
<td>Principles of Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 504</td>
<td>Behavioral Health Intervention Strategies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHS 520</td>
<td>Principles of Biostatistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For applicants entering the program without a Master of Public Health, the minimum credits required for the Dr.P.H. degree will include these 15 credits of foundation courses, for a minimum total of 75. Some or all of the foundation courses may be waived based on previous graduate-level course work, in which case the total credits required for the degree may be reduced in an equivalent manner, down to the base minimum of 60 credits. Students must petition the head of the graduate program to obtain a waiver for the foundation courses, and students’ transcripts will be reviewed to assess their eligibility for a waiver.

Comprehensive Examination
Upon completing all core and most cognate course work, Dr.P.H. students will take comprehensive exams to ensure they meet Dr.P.H. core and track program competencies. Comprehensive exams will be overseen and evaluated by students’ doctoral committee.

Integrative Doctoral Research
Dr.P.H. students will be required to complete two major components for their Dr.P.H. integrative experience: two publishable-quality manuscripts and a doctoral portfolio.

With guidance from their doctoral adviser and doctoral committee, students will develop two manuscripts that comprehensively address, generate, and/or interpret and evaluate knowledge applicable to public health practice. Manuscripts are encouraged to be of an applied nature and must demonstrate students’ abilities to conduct independent research on a contemporary public health issue. Students will demonstrate the application of advanced public health practice skills and knowledge in the design and execution of a scholarly project, the analysis and interpretation of the findings, and the application of the new knowledge to advance public health practice. This work should contribute to the evidence base of public health practice, be of publishable quality, and demonstrate critical thinking and rigorous analytic strategies.

Throughout their doctoral program, students will develop a doctoral portfolio that will document how Dr.P.H. courses, advanced field experience, other experiential learning, and self-knowledge has informed their leadership style and approach to integrating evidence-based research into public health practice. Components of the portfolio may include, but are not limited to, research (e.g., publications, conference presentations), teaching (academic and non-academic, community-based teaching), and field and other service learning experiences. Portfolios will require reflection on in-class and out-of-class experiences and demonstrate students’ broad public health knowledge, specialized knowledge, translation of this knowledge into evidence-based public health practice, and leadership style. Integrative Doctoral Research will demonstrate the following competencies:

- data and analysis,
- communication, systems thinking,
- leadership,
- critical thinking, and
- problem solving.

Written and oral presentation of this work will be required.

### Integrated Undergrad-Grad Programs

#### Integrated B.S. in Biobehavioral Health and M.P.H. in Public Health

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-210 Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) Degree Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-210-integrated-undergraduate-graduate-degree-programs).

The M.P.H. in Public Health program at Penn State Hershey College of Medicine and the B.S. in Biobehavioral Health program at University Park offer an Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) degree program leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Science (B.S.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.).

#### Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions (http://gradschool.psu.edu/education-policies).

Students must apply to and meet the admissions requirements of the Graduate School, as well as the graduate program in which they intend to receive their master’s degree. Admission to the IUG and the M.P.H. degree program is granted jointly by the M.P.H. Program and the Graduate School at Penn State. The requirements presented here are in addition to the Graduate School’s requirements for admission. To be eligible to apply to the IUG program, applicants must meet the following requirements:

#### Requirements

- **GPA**
  - Cumulative GPA: 3.25 or greater
  - GPA in BBH major courses: 3.0 or greater

- **Education**
  - Enrollment in the B.S. in BBH degree program
  - Completion of the following courses: BBH 101, BBH 311 or BBH 316, STAT 200 or STAT 250, PSYCH 100, BIOL 110, BIOL 141

The M.P.H. in Public Health program will continue to monitor the academic performance of undergraduate students who apply and are admitted to the IUG program. If students fall below the GPA requirements during the undergraduate portion of the IUG plan of study, they may be put on probation or terminated from the IUG program altogether.

IUG application requirements include the following:

- Completed online Penn State Graduate School application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply) with nonrefundable application fee
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Statement of purpose
- Two letters of recommendation, including one from the student’s undergraduate academic adviser that proves the academic adviser has worked with the student to develop a draft IUG plan of study

### Integrated Undergrad-Grad Programs

#### IUG Application Requirements

- Completed online Penn State Graduate School application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply) with nonrefundable application fee
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Statement of purpose
- Two letters of recommendation, including one from the student’s undergraduate academic adviser that proves the academic adviser has worked with the student to develop a draft IUG plan of study
• Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission)
• Preliminary draft plan of study. The plan should cover the entire time period of the integrated program, and it should be reviewed periodically with an adviser as the student advances through the program.

Students may begin applying to the IUG in the spring semester of their sophomore year, but must apply no later than the middle of the spring semester of their junior year of the B.S. in Biobehavioral Health degree program. Students must be admitted to the program prior to taking the first course they intend to count towards the graduate degree.

### Degree Requirements

**B.S./M.P.H.** degree requirements are the same as that of the standalone M.P.H. degree program. If students accepted into the IUG program are unable to complete the M.P.H. degree, they are still eligible to receive their undergraduate degree if all the undergraduate degree requirements have been satisfied.

Up to 12 credits of M.P.H. degree course work will double count towards the B.S. in Biobehavioral Health degree requirements.

- **Course Code**
- **Title**
- **Credits**
  - PHS 504 or BBH 504
  - Behavioral Health Intervention Strategies
  - 3
  - PHS 520 or STAT 500
  - Principles of Biostatistics
  - 3
  - PHS 550 or STAT 507
  - Principles of Epidemiology
  - 3
  - PHS 571 or HPA 520
  - Health Services Organization and Delivery
  - 3

**Total Credits**: 12

**Advising of Students**

The M.P.H. in Public Health program will assign IUG students with an academic adviser. This adviser is in addition to the one assigned to them as undergraduate students enrolled in the B.S. in Biobehavioral Health degree program. The M.P.H. in Public Health adviser will be a faculty member from the Department of Public Health Sciences at the Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey, PA who is a member of the Graduate Faculty. The academic adviser will be assigned upon entry into the M.P.H. degree program. If advisers are on different campuses than their respective students, they will communicate with their students through a combination of videoconferencing (via Skype or other mechanism), phone, email, and in person meetings.

**Joint Degrees**

**Joint J.D./M.P.H. with Dickinson Law**

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-211 Joint Degree Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-211-joint-degree-programs).

The M.P.H. in Public Health program and J.D. Program at Dickinson Law offer a joint degree program leading to the degrees of Juris Doctor (J.D.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.).

**Admission Requirements**

Admissions requirements for the J.D./M.P.H. program are the same as those for the J.D. and M.P.H. in Public Health programs. J.D./M.P.H. students will have to meet the admissions requirements of both programs, and each program will make a separate admissions decision. Admissions requirements and applications for admission for Dickinson Law are listed in the J.D. Admissions (https://dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/admissions-aid) section of the Dickinson Law website. The admission requirements for the Master of Public Health are listed on the Admission Requirements tab. Students will first apply and be accepted to the J.D. program at the Dickinson Law. After being accepted to and matriculating at the Dickinson Law, J.D. students will be eligible to submit a Penn State Graduate Application for Admission to the M.P.H. in Public Health. J.D. students may submit an application starting their first semester in the J.D. program up through the fourth semesters of law school.

J.D./M.P.H. students who, for whatever reason, withdraw from the J.D. program retain the option of remaining in the M.P.H. in Public Health program to earn the graduate degree.

**Double-Counting of Courses**

Twelve credits of J.D. course work may be double-counted toward the M.P.H. degree. In lieu of PHS 895A, J.D./M.P.H. students will complete IHCLN 997, which will double-count for both degrees. In addition, up to 9 law school elective credits will be double-counted towards the M.P.H.

Up to 9 credits of M.P.H. course work may be applied towards the J.D. degree. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Dickinson Law will approve, in advance of the student’s enrollment in M.P.H. elective courses, which of those courses will double-count towards J.D. degree.

**Joint M.D./M.P.H. with the College of Medicine**

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-211 Joint Degree Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-211-joint-degree-programs).

The M.P.H. in Public Health program and M.D. Program at Penn State Hershey College of Medicine offer a joint degree program leading to the degrees of Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.).

**Admission Requirements**

Admissions requirements for the M.D./M.P.H. program are the same as those for the M.D. and M.P.H. in Public Health programs. M.D./M.P.H. students will have to meet the admissions requirements of both programs, and each program will make a separate admissions decision. The admission requirements for the M.P.H. degree are listed on the Admission Requirements tab. Admissions requirements and applications for admission for the Penn State College of Medicine are available at the M.D. Program (http://med.psu.edu/md) section of the Penn State College of Medicine website. Students will first apply and be accepted to the M.D. program at the Penn State College of Medicine. After being
accepted to and matriculating at the Penn State M.D. program, M.D. students will be eligible to submit a Penn State Graduate Application for Admission to the M.P.H. in Public Health. M.D. students may submit an application starting their first semester in the M.D. program up through the fall semester of their third year of medical school.

M.D./M.P.H. students who, for whatever reason, withdraw from the M.D. program retain the option of remaining in the M.P.H. in Public Health program to earn the graduate degree.

Degree Requirements
M.D./M.P.H. degree requirements are the same as that of the standalone M.P.H. degree program. Students must fulfill all requirements for each degree in order to be awarded that degree, subject to the double-counting of credits as outlined below. Degree requirements for the M.D. program are listed on the M.D. Program (http://med.psu.edu/md) section of the Penn State College of Medicine website. Degree requirements for the M.P.H. degree are listed on the Degree Requirements tab.

Double-Counting of Courses
Sixteen credits of M.D. course work may be double-counted toward the M.P.H. degree.

Advising of Students
All students in the M.D./M.P.H. program will have two academic advisers, one in the M.P.H. degree program and one in the M.D. program.

Joint M.D./M.P.H. with Taipei Medical University
Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-211 Joint Degree Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-211-joint-degree-programs).

The M.P.H. in Public Health program and T.M.U. offer a joint degree program leading to the degrees of Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) from T.M.U. and Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) from Penn State.

Admission Requirements
Admissions requirements for this program are the same as those for the T.M.U. Pharm.D. and M.P.H. in Public Health programs. Students will have to meet the admissions requirements of both programs (T.M.U. and Penn State program), and each program will make a separate admissions decision. Admissions requirements for T.M.U. medical students are listed in the Admissions (http://www.tmu.edu.tw/english/inter/super_pages.php?ID=inter1) section of the T.M.U. website. The admission requirements for the Master of Public Health are listed on the Admission Requirements tab. Students will first apply and be accepted to the M.D. or Pharm.D. program at T.M.U. After being accepted to and matriculating at T.M.U., Pharm.D. students will be eligible to submit a Penn State Graduate Application for Admission (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-funding) section of The Graduate School’s

Requirements tab. For degree requirements for the M.D., contact Taipei Medical University.

Transfer of Courses
Sixteen credits of coursework completed at Taipei Medical University may be transferred toward the M.P.H. degree.

Advising of Students
All students in the M.D./M.P.H. program will have two advisers, one administrative adviser and one academic adviser in the M.P.H. degree program.

Joint Pharm.D./M.P.H. with Taipei Medical University
Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-211 Joint Degree Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-211-joint-degree-programs).

The M.P.H. in Public Health program and T.M.U. offer a joint degree program leading to the degrees of Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D) from T.M.U. and M.P.H from Penn State.

Admission Requirements
Admissions requirements for this program are the same as those for the T.M.U. Pharm.D. and M.P.H. in Public Health programs. Students will have to meet the admissions requirements of both programs (T.M.U. and Penn State program), and each program will make a separate admissions decision. Admissions requirements for T.M.U. pharmacy students are listed in the Admissions (http://www.tmu.edu.tw/english/inter/super_pages.php?ID=inter1) section of the T.M.U. website. The admission requirements for the Master of Public Health are listed on the Admission Requirements tab. Students will first apply and be accepted to the Pharm.D. program at T.M.U. After being accepted to and matriculating at T.M.U., Pharm.D. students will be eligible to submit a Penn State Graduate Application for Admission (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-funding) section of The Graduate School’s

Requirements tab. For degree requirements for the M.P.H., contact Taipei Medical University.

Degree Requirements
Degree requirements for T.M.U. students are the same as that of the standalone M.P.H. degree program including the completion of 42 credits. Students must fulfill all requirements for each degree in order to be awarded that degree, subject to the transfer of credits as outlined below. Degree requirements for the M.P.H. degree are listed on the Degree Requirements tab. For degree requirements for the M.D., contact Taipei Medical University.

Transfer of Courses
Sixteen credits of coursework completed at Taipei Medical University may be transferred toward the M.P.H. degree.

Advising of Students
All students in the M.D./M.P.H. program will have two advisers, one administrative adviser and one academic adviser in the M.P.H. degree program.

Student Aid
Graduate assistantships available to students in this program and other forms of student aid are described in the Tuition & Funding (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-funding) section of The Graduate School's
website. Students on graduate assistantships must adhere to the course load limits (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gsad/gsad-500/gsad-501-credit-loads-graduate-assistants) set by The Graduate School.

Courses
Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

Public Health Sciences (PHS) Course List (https://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/graduate/phs)

Contact
Graduate Program Head: Douglas Leslie
M.P.H. Director of Graduate Studies/Professor-in-Charge: Wenke Hwang
Dr. P. H. Director of Graduate Studies/Professor-in-Charge: Robin Wilson
Primary Program Contact: Shannon Tuininga
Email: smb611@psu.edu
Mailing Address: Dept of Public Health Sciences, A210, 90 Hope Dr, Suite 2200, Hershey, PA 17033
Telephone: (717) 531-7178
Program Website: Public Health (http://med.psu.edu/publichealth)