

Discipline of Public Health Medicine

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INFORMATION MATERIAL GRADUATE PROGRAMME IN PUBLIC HEALTH 2023 INTAKE

Public health has become a growing field in recent years. A career in public health opens the door to diverse opportunities in various sectors such as government (public sector), private and non-governmental organizations. Because of their "big picture" perspective, public health experts play a crucial role in healthcare planning, policy development, programme implementation, emergency preparedness, and response with the health and social sectors.

The vision of the Discipline of Public Health Medicine is "To inspire Excellence for Population Health." The mission of the Discipline is "To produce effective, globally recognized, locally relevant evidence-informed (based) knowledge to improve population health."

The Graduate Programme in Public Health aims to produce health professionals who are change agents in public health. The programme offers a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health and a Master's of Public Health. The Discipline of Public Health Medicine is now calling for **applications** from Prospective students for the 2023 intake.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

1. Application form with application fee
2. Curriculum vitae
3. Certified copies of all degree certificates
4. Certified copies of academic transcripts for all undergraduate and postgraduate studies (PG)
 - *Please note that the PG transcripts should reflect the appropriate NQF level. If not, please ensure that you have specified it in your CV.*
5. Motivation letter from the applicant
6. Letter from the employer in support of the application.

Applying for the qualifications in the Graduate Programme of Public Health

Should you meet the minimum entry requirements for PGDip-PH or MPH, you may apply by completing the online application on the UKZN website. Ensure that you attach all supporting documents, and they MUST be certified. We will not follow up on any outstanding supporting documents!

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)

The Master of Public Health comprises 50% Coursework and 50% Research. This degree will provide students with specialized knowledge of health issues from a population perspective, allowing them to critically engage and conduct advanced research on the various aspects affecting health from a population focus.

The Master of Public Health will enable students to reflect critically on theory and its application. Graduates from MPH will creatively design and critically appraise research, make sound judgments using data and information at their disposal, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences. , demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks. The MPH can serve as an entry point into the Doctorate of Philosophy in Public Health (PhD).

Purpose of the programme

To educate and train researchers who can contribute to the development of knowledge to protect, preserve and promote the health of communities and populations in a multidisciplinary manner at an advanced level such that they are prepared for advanced and specialized professional employment.

Minimum Admission Requirements: MPH

- A 4-year Bachelor's degree at an honour's level in a health-related or social science discipline (at NQF Level 8).

OR

- A 3-year degree in a health-related or social science discipline plus Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health or any Health-related domain;
- At least two years' practical public health experience.

PLEASE NOTE

1. We have a limited number of spaces for the Master's programme
2. Additional selection criteria will be applied.
3. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
4. No late applications will be considered.
5. Employers letter of release for contact session is required

Structure of the Programme

The MPH is a part-time offering via blended learning, with examinations in May/June and October/November. There is no area of specialization for MPH. The composition of MPH is 50% coursework and 50% research. To graduate with the MPH degree, the student must complete five (5) 16-credits core modules and a 16-credit elective module followed by a 96-credit research project. The core modules will be offered yearly, while we will provide the elective modules only with a minimum registration of 10 students. A student will be required to complete the core modules before taking an elective module. A research dissertation is required to fulfill the requirements for MPH. A student is expected to register for 32 credits per semester for the coursework during year one (1). To graduate, a student needs a total of 192 credits.

The MPH programme structure is as follows:

	SEMESTER 1			
	MODULE NAME	CORE/ELECTIVE	CREDITS	MODULE CODE
1st Year of Registration	Public Health Principles and Practice	Core	16	PBHL8PP
	Health Measurement Descriptive (Pre-requisite to Health Measurement Analytic)	Core	16	PBHL8J1
	SEMESTER2			
	Health Measurement Analytic	Core	16	PBHL8J1
	Qualitative Research Methods	Core	16	PBHL841
2nd Year of Registration	SEMESTER 3			
	Research Methods and Bio-Ethics	CORE	16	PBHL8X1
	**You may register an elective module here			
	SEMESTER 4			
	ELECTIVES **(Choose only one (1) elective)			
	Intermediate Epidemiology	Elective	16	PBHL8E1
	Health Systems & Policy	Elective	16	PBHL8HP
	Health Service Management	Elective	16	PBHL8HM
Research Project/Dissertation	Core	96	PBHL899	
3rd year of registration	SEMESTER 5			
	Research Project in Public Health	Core	96	PBHL899
	SEMESTER 6			
Research Project Subsequent Year (should you have not completed your MPH by then)	Core	96	PBHL89S	

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF PUBLIC HEALTH (PGDIP)

The Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health serves to strengthen the ability of middle managers to manage various programs and enhance the system of health as a whole. The Post Graduate Diploma will train people who are conscious of the issues of the local environment and provide them with the skills to address them in a relevant manner. This program equips working professionals with critical knowledge skills, which gives them the ability to reflect on public health thinking and practices, e.g., Health Systems, Health Service Management, and Service Delivery. The PGDip degree allows graduates to analyze existing data sources critically, engage in operational research, and plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate programs.

The purpose of the programme

To enhance the capacity of people working in the health field to practice Public Health and to undertake advanced reflection and development using a systematic survey of current thinking, practice, and research methods to improve the health status of South Africans and sub-Saharan Africa. The PGDip degree will provide graduates with the skill and expertise to undertake advanced reflection and apply these principles at a health system level and health programs at district, provincial and national levels, and conduct and report research under supervision.

Entry Criteria: Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health:

- A minimum of a 3-year Bachelor's degree in a health or social science-related Discipline.
- At least two (2) years' practical public health experience.

Structure of the Programme: Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health

The Postgraduate Diploma is a part-time offering via blended learning mode with examinations in May/June and October/November. A student requires 128 credits (96 core credits and 32 elective credits) to complete the PGDip. There is no area of specialization. Core modules are as follows.

- Introduction to Public Health
- Basics of Health Measurement
- Human Resource Management
- National Health Systems & Primary Care
- Public Health Service Learning

Electives are offered only with a minimum registration of 10 students. The Post Graduate Diploma can be completed over 24 months.

The PGDip programme structure is as follows:

SEMESTER 1				
	MODULE NAME	CORE/ELECTIVE	CREDITS	MODULE CODE
1 st Year of Registration	Introduction To Public Health	Core	16	PBHL6PH
	Basic Of Health Measurement	Core	16	PBHL6BH1
	SEMESTER2			
	National Health Systems & Primary Care	Core	16	PBHL6CN1
	Human Resource Management	Core	16	PBHL6CM
	*Register 1 elective module this semester from the list below			
2 nd Year of Registration	SEMESTER 3			
	Public Health Service Learning Module (I)	Core	16	PBHL6SL1
	SEMESTER 4			
	Public Health Service Learning Module (II)	Core	16	PBHL6SL 1
	*ELECTIVE MODULES (Choose One (1) elective)			
	Total Quality Management & Corporate Governance	Elective	16	PBHL6QM1
	Operations & Risk Management	Elective	16	PBHL6OM1
	Dental Public Health	Elective	16	PBHL6DH1
PH Management & Information Systems	Elective	16	INFT662	

***To make the correct number of credits (128 credits) to graduate with the PGDip-PH, students must pass two elective modules.**

Duration of the degree

The Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health curriculum has a minimum of four semesters and a maximum of six semesters of part-time tuition. In contrast, for the Master of Public Health, the curriculum will occupy a minimum of six and a maximum of ten semesters of part-time tuition and research. With the Board's permission, a candidate shall be permitted to suspend registration for a maximum of one semester.

Cost of Modules

Check the student fee guide on the UKZN website, www.ukzn.ac.za. The cost is subject to University price adjustments for 2023.

Selection process

Selection into the Graduate Programme in Public Health is as per minimum entry criteria, letter of motivation, work experience, and additional criteria that may be applied, depending on the number of places available. We will offer a place for **either** the Master of Public Health or Post Graduate Diploma should the applicant fulfill all the application requirements.

Registration

Once offers have been made, acceptance letters are sent to students by e-mail. Ensure that the e-mail address you give is correct and legible. Should you take up the offer, you are required to register in January 2022. Registration is online, and registration dates and deadlines will be provided. The registration fee is four

thousand rands (R4,000.00, subject to change). You will register modules as per programme structure and offering for the year and semester you are accepted into. After registration, students must get a student card and activate their UKZN user logins to access the student university services - Student Portal, Student Central, and online learning platforms (study resources, lectures, and assignments are here).

**NB: You will not be allowed to participate in the modules if you are not registered.
Active participation, once registered, is advised.**

Contact people

	NAME	TEL	E-MAIL
Academic Coordinator: Post Graduate Diploma	Dr Chauntelle Bagwandeem	031 260 7245	bagwandeenc@ukzn.ac.za
Academic Coordinator: Master of Public Health	Dr Thembelihle Dlungwane	031 260 4308	dlungwane@ukzn.ac.za
Administration	Dineo Oliphant	031 260 4383	oliphant@ukzn.ac.za

The applications for the academic year of 2023 close on the 30th of September 2022.

Please take note of the following when completing the application online:

1. All the sections must be completed in full.
2. The documents that follow must be uploaded on the online application platform. Please have them scanned, saved on your devices (e.g., USB/laptop and ready to upload:
 - a. Application fee and Application Form
 - b. Curriculum Vitae
 - c. Letter from employer, providing permission for you to obtain leave from work to attend modules.
 - d. Letter of motivation from the applicant showing understanding of public health, how the applicant plans to use this degree, and their level of computer literacy.
 - e. Certified copies of academic transcript for undergraduate and any postgraduate degrees
 - f. Certified copy of Matric certificate or O-Levels or any other School Leaving certificate
 - g. Certified copy of Identity Document (ID) or Passport

NB: Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications without all of the above-mentioned documents will be rejected. It is not the duty of the administrators to follow up on outstanding supporting documents.

HOW TO APPLY

Please apply online on the UKZN website.