

Public Health, B.S.

Program Description

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health program is offered through the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education and is based on the Eight Areas of Responsibility for an entry-level health educator delineated by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, which represents a comprehensive set of competencies defining the knowledge and skills required of a health education specialist in a variety of job settings (NCHEC, 2020). The program is designed to:

- Prepare students with the knowledge and skills to assess community needs and design, implement, and evaluate public health education programs.
- Focus on improving quality of life and overall well-being of individuals, worksites, and communities through behavioral, environmental, and policy-based initiatives.
- Prepare students for entry to mid-level positions in public health departments, community-based health organizations, outreach education programs, health care settings, private health organizations, and corporate wellness settings as well as advanced studies in Public Health.
- Prepare students to work collaboratively in interdisciplinary teams, patient care coordination, quality improvement for strategic planning and systems redesign, community engagement, community needs assessment, and health coaching.
- Prepare students for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam.



This program is a part of the Wellstar College of Health and Human Services.

Admission, Enrollment, and Graduation Policies

Admission Requirements

This program does not have specific admission requirements and only admission to Kennesaw State University is required. For more information, please visit the Admissions section of the catalog.

Graduation Requirements

Each student is expected to meet the requirements outlined in Academic Policies 5.0 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & GRADUATION.

Program Course Requirements

Core IMPACTS Curriculum (42 Credit Hours)

General Education Core IMPACTS Curriculum

Core Field of Study (18 Credit Hours)

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

- PHE 2000: Writing and Analysis for Public Health
 - PHE 2100: Introduction to Public Health
 - or
 - HHS 2100: Overview of Health and Human Services
 - PHE 2400: Behavior Theory and Applications
 - WELL 2000: Foundations of Health and Wellness
 - HPAL 2250: Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Physical Activity Leadership
 - or
 - BIOL 2251: Anatomy & Physiology I
 - HS 2300: Cultural Competence in the Human Services
- One (1) credit hour carried over from Natural Sciences.

Major Requirements (39 or 42 Credit Hours)

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

Public Health Education Core (33 Credit Hours)

- PHE 3150: Applied Analytic Techniques in Public Health
- PHE 3330: Health Systems & Health Policy
- or
- NURS 3330: Health Systems and Health Policy
- PHE 3400: Disease Prevention and Management
- PHE 3850: Fundamentals of Program Planning
- PHE 4200: Introduction to Community and Worksite Health
- PHE 4300: Environmental Health Issues
- PHE 4350: Methods of Public Health Research
- PHE 4500: Epidemiology
- PHE 4600: Program Implementation and Evaluation
- PHE 4650: Health Coaching and Patient Education
- PHE 4720: Introduction to the Public Health Internship

Public Health Internship (6 or 9 Credit Hours)

Note: Students who complete 9 credit hours of internship will need to complete 18 credit hours of Free Electives. Those who complete 6 credit hours of internship will need to complete 21 credit hours of Free Electives.

- PHE 4750: Public Health Internship

University Electives (18 or 21 Credit Hours)

In accordance with KSU Graduation Policy, students must earn a grade of "D" or better in these courses while maintaining a minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA.

Free Electives (18 or 21 Credit Hours)

Select 18 or 21 credit hours of 1000–4000 level coursework from the University Catalog depending on the number of Internship credit hours completed.

Note: Public Health majors are encouraged to consider a minor or certificate program to fulfill elective requirements.

Program Total (120 Credit Hours)