

Online Master of Public Health (MPH)

What is the applied practice experience?

The applied practice experience is an experience that serves as evidence of your ability to apply the knowledge and skills you learn in the program to a public health problem. This exercise is conducted in real-world settings with support and guidance from community preceptors and faculty. Completion of the applied practice experience requires a **minimum of 150 contact hours** and the development and **presentation of a portfolio**. The applied practice experience cannot be waived.

Applied Practice Experience Examples

- Analyze a healthcare policy, and develop and test strategies for its implementation
- Conduct a community-wide health needs assessment
- Assess the organizational functioning of a nonprofit organization and develop a plan to increase their efficiency and effectiveness (for Health Policy and Management students)
- Participate in public health agencies or hospitals (for Social and Behavioral Sciences students)

Is there an applied practice experience class?

Yes, all students in MPH will take either HPM 60192 or SBS 60192, which is the [3-credit-hour Applied Practice Experience](#) course.

How soon can I start my applied practice experience?

The applied practice experience is completed during the last year of your program of study. You will register with the applied practice experience coordinator to begin the course at the beginning of the second half of the [MPH program](#). Once you receive site/project approval, you can begin developing your project and register for the practicum course. Upon completion of your project, grades are assigned. Grades are based upon the quality of the portfolio, your presentation, the preceptor's evaluation, a self-evaluation and the faculty assessment.

Can I do my applied practice experience at my current place of employment?

The program coordinator may approve an applied practice experience in such settings provided that certain safeguards can be established to ensure that the educational quality of the learning experience is preserved.

Does my Applied Practice Experience Preceptor need to have an MPH degree?

Not necessarily. However, your Applied Practice Experience Preceptor should be able to:

- Facilitate or provide direction on your applied practice experience project
- Provide expertise on your subject matter
- Consult with students when needed
- Complete the required paperwork and evaluations
- Enjoy working with students

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These are examples of applied practice experience sites. To start your experience, you will work with the applied practice experience coordinator on finding an approved site and project near you.

AGENCIES/ ORGANIZATIONS	CITY	STATE
Amazon	Stone Mountain	GA
Akron Children's Hospital	Akron	OH
Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics	Phoenix	AZ
California Consortium for Urban Indian Health	San Francisco	CA
CalvertHealth Medical Center	Prince Frederick	MD
Chicago Department of Public Health	Chicago	IL
Children's Minnesota	Minneapolis	MN
Children's National Hospital	Washington	DC
Cleveland Clinic	Cleveland	OH
Colorado State University	Fort Collins	CO
Community Connections	Washington	DC
Dallas Children's Medical Center	Dallas	TX
Elliot Hospital Behavioral Health	Manchester	NH
Gaston County Health Dept	Gastonia	NC
Massachusetts Department of Public Health	Boston	MA
Mathematica, Inc.	Princeton	NJ
Metro Health System	Cleveland	OH
Metropolitan Public Health Department - Nashville/Davidson County	Nashville	TN
Michigan Dept of Health & Human Services	Lansing	MI
Ohio Department of Health	Columbus	OH
Pennsylvania Expanded HIV Testing Initiative (PEHTI)	University Park	PA
Platte County Health Department	Kansas City	MO
Population Media Center	South Burlington	VT
Providence Kodiak Island Medical Center	Kodiak	AK
Rhode Island Hospital	Providence	RI
SAGE / SAGECare	New York	NY
Sheboygan County Health & Human Services	Sheboygan	WI
South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control	Columbia	SC
State of Nevada, Division of Public and Behavioral Health	Carson City	NV
University Hospitals	Cleveland	OH
Utah Department of Health and Human Services	Salt Lake City	UT
Virginia Department of Health	Richmond	VA
Wisconsin Dept of Health Services	Madison	WI
WVU Medicine Wheeling Hospital	Wheeling	WV