Why the MPH Program at ETSU?

“Public Health is what we, as a society, do collectively to assure the conditions for people to be healthy.” Institute of Medicine 1988

The Master of Public Health (MPH) program at East Tennessee State University offers remarkable and unique combinations of a high quality learning experience with multiple opportunities for practice, research, and community service. Students gain this experience in a low-cost, safe, and beautiful, natural environment.

Well-established MPH Program - While the College was fully accredited in 2009, the MPH program has been continuously accredited since 2000. The program is competency-based and practice-oriented, while boasting over 175 affiliations with internship sites to facilitate students’ access to a wide range of organizational options for their field placement. There are also a large number of inter-professional and community-based courses.

Flexible On-ground/Online Program - Incoming students have the option of enrolling on a full-time or part-time basis. While all five concentrations are available on campus, three concentrations (Health Services Administration, Epidemiology, and Community Health) are available fully online. This allows distance students and working professionals to pursue the program completely online while continuing to work and/or care for their families. Online courses are delivered via cutting-edge technology with live streaming and video archiving of lectures, and students have the option of joining class live or asynchronously at their convenience.

High Quality MPH Program - While the program is rigorous, it is focused on student success. The average GPA of graduates is $\geq 3.65$ in recent years. Based on the 2013 Alumni Survey, the overwhelming majority of MPH graduates (96%) agreed that their MPH degree helped them achieve their professional goals, 96% agreed that the MPH training was relevant to their job, and 92% reported satisfaction with their coursework. All (100%) of MPH graduates were employed within one year.

Affordable Tuition - Full-time tuition for academic year 2014/15 was $8,455 for in-state students and $21,109 for out-of-state students, which is significantly lower than tuition at peer schools of public health. Further, ETSU offers a discounted eRate for out-of-state students enrolled in online programs (http://www.etsu.edu/eRate). The eRate is 55% of the out-of-state tuition. Students from select border counties in Virginia and North Carolina are eligible to receive the in-state tuition rate http://www.etsu.edu/admissions/residency/bordercounty.aspx

Scholarship and Assistantship Opportunities - The MPH program offers opportunities for graduate assistantships, tuition scholarships, and research assistantships for incoming students. In addition, ETSU’s Graduate School offers out-of-state scholarships, diversity scholarships, international merit scholarships and others. For additional information please go to http://www.etsu.edu/gradstud/scholarships/scholarship.aspx
Student Research, Support, and Community Involvement - The majority of funded research projects (over 90%) in the College involve students, and over half of faculty publications and presentations include student co-authors. A low student-faculty ratio facilitates student advising, mentoring, and career counseling. The College has an exceptionally active student body. Student organizations within the College, such as the Public Health Student Association, the Tennessee Environmental Health Association, and the American Society for Microbiology student chapter all offer a range of collaborative service learning opportunities to support students interested in community service and leadership.

Diverse and Qualified Student Body - One in five graduate students belong to a minority group, and one in five students is international. The average GPA of incoming MPH students was 3.4 (out of 4.0) in recent years.

Diverse and Qualified Faculty - Your faculty members have significant teaching, research and practice experience. Many faculty hold leadership positions in professional associations, and over one-half have advanced to tenure.

Beautiful and Safe Environment - Johnson City is in the Tri-Cities region of north east Tennessee. It is rated as one of the best small towns in the U.S. Only one hour from Asheville, NC, and one hour from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the area offers year-round moderate weather, a picturesque countryside, and many outdoor recreational activities. There is easy access to interstate highways, airports, and major cities, including Washington, D.C., Atlanta, GA, Charlotte, NC, Nashville, TN, and many others.

Helpful Links
We encourage you to visit these websites to learn more about our eRate and scholarship opportunities: Discounted eRate: http://www.etsu.edu/eRate
International Merit Scholarships: http://www.etsu.edu/honors/international/internationalstudentscholarships/default.aspx#international
The Dean of the College of Public Health, Dr. Randy Wykoff, welcomes students with his support and encouragement. Message from the Dean: http://www.etsu.edu/cph/about/deanmessage.aspx

Your Next Step
There is clearly no other place that offers such a well-rounded, high quality educational experience at a fraction of the cost of most other schools. Now that you are ready to apply, please visit SOPHAS.org to begin the application process.
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **After submitting the application, where do I need to send my transcripts?** If the Admissions Committee recommends you for admission, the School of Graduate Studies will require a supplemental application and original transcripts. Until you are notified of admission, only focus on the SOPHAS process.

2. **Where do I send my GRE scores?** Use the 7333 code, and they will be attached to your application.

3. **Is it possible to finish this program in a year?** It is not possible to complete the MPH in one year. With full-time study, taking summer classes, and the field experience (internship), the earliest you could possibly complete would be one year plus one semester.

4. **Is the MPH program offered part time?** Yes, and you can take up to six years to complete.

5. **What concentrations are available 100% online?** Three Concentrations are available fully online: Epidemiology, Health Services Administration, and Community Health.

6. **Can you start the MPH program in the Spring or Summer Term?** The program starts only in the Fall.

7. **What is the deadline for submitting my SOPHAS application for the Fall Term?** February 1 is the preferred deadline.

8. **Are any Certificates offered along with the MPH?** Yes, we offer Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Gerontology, Health Care Management, and Rural Health. You may not pursue a graduate certificate in the same Concentration as your main program of study.

9. **Are there any joint degrees?** Yes, the College collaborates with the Quillen College of Medicine and the Gatton College of Pharmacy to offer MD/MPH and PharmD/MPH programs respectively. Where possible, we work with students with special interests to incorporate inter-professional coursework into their training program.

For More Information

If you are still not sure, please contact Dr. Michelle C. Reece at 423-439-6637, or by email at mphcoordinator@etsu.edu.

Check out our college website www.etsu.edu/cph, or better yet, visit our campus if you have the opportunity to do so.

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