



CLINICAL RESEARCH MAJOR—M.S.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

School of Public Health

Clinical research is fast becoming more complex, sophisticated, and regulated. This has created a recognition and demand for formalized training for those who intend to apply their clinical skills to health research in human populations. The M.S. in Clinical Research focuses mainly on patient-oriented research. The Clinical Research program at the University is at the forefront of this new academic discipline.

For more information about the Clinical Research Major

Web site: www.epi.umn.edu

Major Coordinators:
Shelley Cooksey, Andrea
Kish, and Kathryn Schwartz
E-mail:
gradstudies@epi.umn.edu
Phone: (612) 626-8802
Fax: (612) 624-0315

School of Public Health, Student Services Center, and application informa- tion and materials

Web site:
[www.sph.umn.edu/
students/application/](http://www.sph.umn.edu/students/application/)
E-mail: sph-ssc@umn.edu
Phone: (612) 626-3500
Toll Free: (800) 774-8636
Fax: (612) 624-4498

Program Curriculum

The 38-credit program includes 25 credits in required courses, 3 elective credits, and 10 thesis credits. Elective credits may be taken from any academic unit within the University's Academic Health Center or from other related fields by permission of the adviser.

The thesis requires an active role in a new or ongoing clinical research project, and from this work the student is required to submit a final written scientific report to the faculty committee and the Graduate School. In a final oral examination, the thesis project is presented and defended. The thesis committee consists of at least three graduate faculty members.

Fundamentals of Clinical Research (*PubH 6301, 3 credits*)
Research Seminar (*PubH 6303, 2 credits*)
Epidemiologic Methods I (*PubH 6341, 3 credits*)
Epidemiologic Methods II (*PubH 6342, 3 credits*)
Writing Research Grants (*PubH 6348, 2 credits*)
Biostatistics I (*PubH 6450, 4 credits*)
Biostatistics II (*PubH 6451, 4 credits*)
Clinical Trials (*PubH 7420, 3 credits*)
Ethics in Public Health: Research and Policy (*PubH 6742, 1 credit*)*
Elective Credits (*3 credits*)
Thesis Credits: Master's (*PubH 8777, 10 credits*)

* Also required: both sessions of the University of Minnesota Responsible Conduct of Research course, validated by ORTTA; also, the NIH online training, Protection of Human Research Subjects, validated by the electronic certificate given at end of course.

Admission Preferences

Admission requires an advanced professional degree from an accredited college or university. Admissions committees in each major review applicants according to their personal statements, background and experience, record of academic achievement, demonstrated academic potential, letters of recommendation, compatibility of interests with program faculty, and other factors. Test scores and GPAs provide competitive points of reference for admission but are not alone decisive in the admissions review.

This program is designed for individuals interested in a research career in academia, industry, research institutes, health agencies, or regulatory agencies. Applicants must have an advanced health professional degree such as M.D., D.O., D.D.S., D.V.M., Pharm.D., Ph.D. or any other advanced doctoral degree in a clinical biomedical field; or an advanced nursing degree (such as M.S. in Nursing). In addition, applicants must have completed or be at an advanced state of their clinical practice training, and be affiliated with someone at the University of Minnesota who can provide advising and access to a clinical research project. The admissions committee will consider exceptions on an individual basis.

Preferred Performance Levels

- One of three required recommendation letters should be from the Clinical Director of training supporting the applicant's potential as a clinical researcher.
- TOEFL score of 600 on the paper test **or** 250 on the computer-based test **or** 90 on the internet-based (iBT) test is strongly preferred of international students who have earned their degrees from non-native English speaking countries. There are three exceptions:
(1) If the applicant has taken and successfully passed the English examination portion of the ECFMG or USMLE exams, a TOEFL score is not required.

over

CLINICAL RESEARCH MAJOR—M.S. *continued*

- (2) University of Minnesota Medical Fellows or Medical Fellow Specialists who have taken at least 24 credits as part of their University fellowship; they will be exempt from providing an official TOEFL score if they provide a transcript of these credits.
- (3) The MELAB is an alternative exam to the TOEFL.

- There are additional administrative procedures required by the Graduate School for applicants who are faculty members at the University of Minnesota above the rank of Instructor. Please contact the Graduate School Admissions Office, (612) 625-9364, early in the process of completing the application materials and inquire about these additional requirements.
- Applicants from outside the University will need to identify key advisors and access to a clinical research thesis project.
- The GRE is not required.

Application Deadlines

- Priority: December 15
- Final: April 15

Admission Decisions

Applicants are notified about admission decisions by mail approximately six weeks after their completed application is received.

Dual/Joint Degrees

The School of Public Health offers numerous joint and dual degree options in collaboration with schools and colleges across the University, including business, law, journalism, nursing, medicine, public policy, social work, and veterinary medicine. For more information, please see <http://www.sph.umn.edu/education/degrees/dualdegrees/home.html>.