

# 4+1 BIOSTATISTICS



Through the teaching and support of world-class faculty, graduates with a MS in Biostatistics from the U of MN School of Public Health are well-prepared to work as statistical collaborators and consultants in public and private organizations and research institutions locally, nationally and across the world.

**Earn a graduate degree from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health—a top ten school of public health in the U.S.**

## PROGRAM FORMAT

The 4+1 Biostatistics MS program is designed specifically for undergraduate students who are currently enrolled in the School of Statistics in the U of MN College of Liberal Arts (CLA), providing them a unique opportunity to complete a bachelor's and master's degree within five years.

Students fulfill all CLA undergraduate requirements as determined by their program and begin graduate coursework in Biostatistics during their fourth year. Biostatistics graduate courses and the corresponding MS degree are administered by the U of MN School of Public Health.

## WHAT IS BIOSTATISTICS?

Biostatistics is the development and application of statistical methods for solving scientific problems in human biology, public health, and medicine. Biostatisticians work in close partnership with researchers across a wide array of scientific disciplines, and play an essential role in studies conducted to improve health outcomes. Using their expertise in research and statistics, biostatisticians extract meaning from complex data by designing biomedical studies, analyzing the data, and putting the results in context for researchers.

## BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

- **Saves time.** Earn a BA/BS and a MS in just 5 years.
- **Saves money.** Students pay the undergraduate tuition rate instead of the graduate school tuition rate for the Biostatistics courses they take during their senior year as undergraduates.
- **Career preparation.** Provides real-world experience in data analysis and cross-disciplinary scientific collaboration before graduating.
- **Personalized.** Biostatistics MS students enjoy small classes, individual faculty attention, state-of-the-art computing facilities, a strong record in job placement, and access to a wide variety of teaching and research assistantship experiences.
- **Excellence in education.** Emphasizes a solid foundation in Biostatistics with the same rigor and coursework as students in the traditional 2-year MS program.

## CAREER

According to the American Statistical Association, there is currently a shortage of biostatisticians in the U.S., so job prospects are excellent. Typical starting salaries for MS biostatisticians range between \$69,000 and \$90,000.

Nearly all of Biostatistics MS graduates are employed immediately after graduation and are highly sought after by public research institutions, private healthcare and health insurance organizations, government agencies, and pharmaceutical and medical device companies.

## POSITIONS HELD BY GRADUATES OF THE BIostatISTICS MS PROGRAM

**Boston Scientific**  
Biostatistician

**Humana, Inc.**  
Associate Actuary

**Kaiser Permanente**  
Biostatistician I

**Mayo Clinic**  
Statistician I

**MD Anderson Cancer Center**  
Statistical Analyst

**Medtronic**  
Statistical Programmer Analyst

**Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center**  
Research Biostatistician

**North American Science Associates, Inc. (NAMSA)**  
Medical Research Biostatistician

**St. Jude Medical**  
Biostatistician

## ADMISSION MATERIALS

- Statement of purpose and objectives
- Resume or curriculum vitae (CV)
- Official transcripts
- Three letters of recommendation, including one from the major adviser in Statistics or CLA college adviser

## REQUIREMENTS & PREREQUISITES

To be considered for admission to the 4+1 program, prospective students must be officially admitted to an undergraduate major (BA or BS) in the School of Statistics in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota with at least 60 credits.

### PREREQUISITE COURSES

By the end of the academic year prior to starting the MS program, students must have completed the following courses with a grade of B or higher in each course:

- Stat 5101 and Stat 5102, or Stat 4101 and Stat 4102 (Statistical Theory)
- Three semesters of calculus
- One semester of linear algebra

### PREFERRED SKILLS

Experience in basic programming is strongly recommended; exposure to programming in a statistical software package (R or SAS) is preferred.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications open in August and close February 1.



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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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