

OCCUPATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NURSING



There is greater need than ever for employers to protect and promote the well-being of workers. Current trends shaping the field of Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing include: an increasing number of workplace hazards (including chemical, physical, psychosocial, and biological agents), governmental regulations, an increased prevalence of chronic disease and injury in an aging workforce, public demands for healthcare reform, environmental protection and sustainability, and an increasing emphasis on global health.

This high-ranking program develops future leaders who are uniquely prepared to improve the health and safety of workers on a large scale.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MPH DEGREE

(minimum of 42 credits and 2 years of study)

The MPH program is designed for students with an interest in population health and program administration who are considering careers in business settings, health services, or the insurance industry.

PhD DEGREE

(minimum of 46 credits and 24 dissertation credits, and three full-time years of study if one has not completed the equivalent of the MPH)

The PhD program is designed to bring students to a high level of academic competence, and is intended for students interested in a career focused on research and graduate education. The curriculum emphasizes the statistical and analytic methods required to conduct original research, and can be tailored to the student's dissertation topic. Students develop dissertation topics from ongoing research projects, their own ideas, or in association with their employer.

ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

Student financial support. Students have access to financial support, covering tuition and fees, through a training grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Interdisciplinary approach. The program integrates the sciences of nursing, medicine, public health (e.g., epidemiology and environmental health) and occupational health (e.g., toxicology, safety, industrial hygiene and ergonomics).

Applied learning. Students apply coursework to real world-problems in local, regional, national or global settings. These learning experiences provide students with invaluable exposure to professional mentors and current public health challenges.

Highly ranked. A degree from a top 10 school of public health provides distinction in competitive career environments.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Nurses who are interested in public health, passionate about the prevention of illness and injury, and want to work with employed adults should apply. Individuals must have at least one year of professional experience as a registered nurse (licensed to practice in the U.S.).

CAREERS

Employment opportunities for occupational and environmental health nurses are abundant due to ever-increasing numbers of workplace hazards. Graduates work in global corporations, hospitals and healthcare systems, federal and state public health agencies, insurance carriers, universities and consulting firms. Professional roles include developing, managing and evaluating programs in illness and injury prevention and management, health protection and promotion, case management, education, and applied research.

POSITIONS HELD BY GRADUATES

3M

Occupational Health Manager

Pre-Employment Clearances and Scheduling Branch, Office of Human Resources Management, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Nurse Consultant

HealthPartners

Practice Manager, Occupational Medicine

Kent State University, College of Public Health

Assistant Professor

ADMISSIONS

Students are admitted to the UMN School of Public Health's Environmental Health major.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Official transcripts
- Statement of Purpose and Objectives
- Resume or C.V.
- 3 letters of recommendation

PREREQUISITES

Applicants must have at least one year of professional experience as a registered nurse (licensed to practice in the U.S.), and must have successfully completed a baccalaureate degree in nursing or a related field.

EXPERT FACULTY

Our cutting-edge curriculum is created by expert School of Public Health faculty (one faculty member profiled below) in partnership with our Advisory Board which includes representatives of labor, industry, government agencies, academic institutions, and professional associations.



Dr. Pat McGovern's research investigates occupational and environmental health issues, in particular, exposures impacting women's and children's health. Current and recent projects include testing a wellness intervention for caregivers in the healthcare and social service industry, developing a case study of stress and resilience among farmers and farm workers exposed to Avian Flu, and conducting a pilot study examining exposure of mothers and infants to metals in drinking water and infant neurodevelopment.

STUDENT RESEARCH EXAMPLES

- Necessary Drugs; Unnecessary Exposures: An Intervention to Protect Oncology Healthcare Workers
- Implementing a Sharps Injury Reduction Program at a Charity Hospital in India
- A Mixed Methods Inquiry into the Injuries Sustained by Security Guards at a Level 1 Trauma Hospital

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