The Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) degree program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte prepares graduates to apply core principles of public health education and to advance the public health profession. Through a balance of research and professional practice perspectives, students develop specialized skills to assess health behavior and to design, deliver, and evaluate health promotion and risk prevention and risk reduction services.

The Graduate Certificate Program in Community Health contributes to the preparation of community and public health practitioners to take the CHES examination. The Certificate, a 15 credit subset of the MSPH curriculum, also is available to students who wish to complement an existing degree in a health profession (for example, nursing or social work), or who wish to explore a career in public health. Completion of the certificate program does not ensure admission into the MSPH program.

Benefits of Public Health Training

The MSPH program consists of core content courses as well as research and practical experiences through a capstone project and a required internship. The program prepares students to provide leadership in a variety of settings, including health-related agencies and organizations, hospitals, local and state public health departments, academic research centers and institutes, corporate disease management and wellness programs, non-profit agencies, and healthcare businesses and industries.

Graduates of the program are competent in the core disciplines of public health and evidence-based practice, are prepared to engage in independent and collaborative health research programs, and have developed the oral and written communication skills needed to disseminate public health scholarship to diverse audiences. Graduates also are well prepared for doctoral training in public and allied health disciplines.

MSPH program graduates are eligible to sit for the CPH (Certified in Public Health) credentialing exam offered by the National Board of Public Health Examiners. Students completing the Community Health Practice concentration meet the requirements to sit for the nationally recognized Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam. Students completing other specialty areas may be eligible to sit for the exam.
MSPH Mission and Values Statement
The Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) program prepares graduate students to apply core principles of public health education within a variety of community settings and to advance the public health profession. Students develop specialized skills to assess health behavior and to design, deliver, and evaluate health promotion, risk prevention, and risk reduction services. The program values professional and academic integrity and ethics, collegiality, engagement with the community, and responsiveness and innovation in its pursuit of attaining the highest possible standards of health and well-being.

CEPH Accreditation and AAPHP Membership
The Department of Public Health Sciences is committed to continuous program improvement. The MSPH program is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). The goal of CEPH is “to enhance health in human populations through organized community effort.” The Council’s focus is the improvement of health through the assurance of professional personnel who are able to identify, prevent and solve community health problems. To learn more about CEPH, visit http://www.ceph.org.

The public health program is a member of the Association of Accredited Public Health Programs (AAPHP), a worldwide association developed to facilitate collaborative and consultative opportunities with national and international agencies and to work cooperatively with other professional associations. To learn more about AAPHP visit http://www.mphpprograms.org/.

Professional Enrichment Activities
The program hosts the Beta Phi Chapter of Delta Omega, the national public health honorary society. The program also works closely with its professional student association, the Graduate Public Health Association (GPHA) on a number of service and enrichment efforts, including CHES Continuing Education credits.

Admission Requirements
General requirements for Master's and Graduate Certificate students at UNC Charlotte can be found on the Graduate School section of the website at http://graduateschool.uncc.edu.

- Applicants to MSPH program must demonstrate acceptable scores on GRE
- Applicants must have a record of undergraduate coursework that demonstrates preparation for graduate work in health sciences
- Applicants for full-time study are admitted in the Fall.
- Applicants for part-time study or those transferring with advanced standing can be considered for either Fall or Spring admission.
- For full consideration, Fall applications are expected by February 15 and Spring applications are expected by September 15.
- Applications received after these dates will be reviewed until the stated university deadline (currently May 1 for Fall and October 1 for Spring admission), space permitting.

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
UNC Charlotte is one of North Carolina’s most energetic and responsive public universities, providing quality undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral, and continuing education in the liberal arts and sciences and continuing education in architecture, business, computing, education, engineering and human services and health professions. With an enrollment of more than 25,000 students in its academic programs and approximately 5,000 students residing on campus, UNC Charlotte attracts a diverse student body from 46 states and 89 countries. The UNC Charlotte campus, encompassed by a thriving metropolitan area of more than 2 million people, has the feel of a small residential campus. Contemporary and dynamic, its pedestrian core is located in the midst of approximately one thousand acres of rolling hills, woods, streams, and ponds.

College of Health and Human Services
One of the seven colleges within the university, the College of Health and Human Services offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate degree programs that lead to careers in the health professions and human services. Undergraduate programs are available in athletic training, exercise science, nursing, public health, respiratory therapy and social work. Graduate degree programs are available in clinical exercise physiology, health administration, nursing, public health, and social work and a doctoral degree (PhD) program in health services research.