

# **Global Select Scholars Program**

Creating Opportunities to Improve Population Health.



## What is the Global Select Scholars Program?

The Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH) Global Select Scholars program is a collaboration between leading undergraduate institutions outside of the US and Boston University that creates educational opportunities to prepare students to contribute to a healthier global society. The BUSPH Global Select Scholars Program offers a unique opportunity for outstanding undergraduates with an interest in public health to enroll in a graduate public health program and join a cohort of their peers through early acceptance into and subsequent graduate training in public health. The program provides students the opportunity to explore different options that are available in the field of public health, and connecting them with faculty mentors for academic and career advising.

## What are the Goals of the Program?

The Global Select Scholars Program aims to:

- Introduce outstanding international undergraduate students to public health, a vibrant and growing field that provides the essential tools for a wide range of career opportunities;
- Support international students in the transition from undergraduate to graduate study through mentoring and advising;
- Provide international students with the knowledge, training, skills, and professional confidence to excel in public health through student-centered, project-based coursework, hands-on practice and research experiences; and to
- Establish a targeted career action plan for each student and track graduates of the BUSPH Global Select Scholars Program to document its effectiveness.

## Who is Involved?

The BU SPH Global Select Scholars network includes highly ranked institutions whose mission is consistent with that of BU SPH,

*“To improve the health of local, national, and international populations, particularly the disadvantaged, underserved, and vulnerable, through excellence and innovation in education, research, and service.”*

## Why BUSPH?

It is an exciting time to enter public health, and a graduate degree from BUSPH—ranked among the top 10 public health schools in the country—is a highly regarded credential. BUSPH is an innovator in public health education with a new and flexible curriculum designed to prepare students for a range of career opportunities. Students gain a strong, integrated, problem-based foundation in the values, history, methods, and functions of public health, and build skills and expertise in a selected area of specialization.

## What are the Advantages for Global Select Scholars?

Global Select Scholars gain early acceptance to a top graduate program and complete their senior year at their home institution, taking full advantage of perhaps the most important year of their undergraduate experience, free from the stress of applying to graduate schools or finding a job.

Global Select Scholars have access to scholarships to support their graduate tuition (more details are included in the Financing section below).

Once they matriculate, Global Select Scholars receive additional networking opportunities with the Dean and the School's faculty. For example, one of the Dean's Seminars on contemporary issues in public health will be dedicated to Global Select Scholars. Scholars will be recognized at the event and invited to join Dean Galea and the guest speakers to celebrate their accomplishments.

## The BUSPH family of Scholars

At BUSPH, community is everything. Preferred Partner Scholars are part of that community, joining Community Scholars who are public health professionals that complete a master of public health degree while continuing to work in the field. Next Generation Scholars are graduate students who are recommended by our alumni—who know best the kinds of students that have the greatest potential to make a difference in public health. Select Scholars are undergraduates who are offered early acceptance to a graduate program based on their outstanding performance and potential as public health professionals. Global Scholars are international scholars selected from partner schools in our global network, who are engaged in graduate training at BUSPH.

## Why Earn a Master's Degree?

A master's degree increases job opportunities, earning potential and job security. Increasingly, professions are requiring master's degrees and selected master's programs are among the best graduate degrees for jobs in 2016 (Fortune, March 21, 2016). Over 92% of BUSPH graduates are employed within 6 months and our graduates think critically and collaborate to develop effective solutions to real world problems locally, nationally, and globally; particularly those affecting the disadvantaged, vulnerable and underserved.

## Master's Degrees at BUSPH

Our signature degree program is the Master of Public Health (MPH). MPH students come from a variety of undergraduate backgrounds and majors and after completing the MPH degree, graduates enter a wide range of employment sectors taking various positions, including:

Sectors	Positions
Consulting	Business Analysts
Governmental Public Health Agencies	Consultants
Health Information Technology	Data Analysts
Hospitals/Healthcare Providers	Consultants
Insurance Agencies	Environmental Health Agents
Nonprofit Organizations	Epidemiologists
Pharmaceutical Industry	Healthcare Quality Improvement Analysts
	Health Education and Promotion
	Health Policy Analysts
	Project Managers
	Research Assistants

The MPH is a 48-credit program and includes:

- A strong foundation in the values, history, methods, and functions of public health through an Integrated Core Curriculum which provides the foundational knowledge and skills required for public health professionals in the 21st century;
- Rigorous and sequenced training in focused specialty areas through Interdisciplinary Certificates in exciting areas targeted to the needs of the field (see below). The specialization is the distinguishing feature of the BU MPH and designed to be adaptable to changes in the field and the needs of the workforce;
- Professional Development and Practical Experience including a Practicum to ensure that all graduates have the required practical experience for successful employment, an Integrative Learning Experience where students demonstrate their abilities to integrate, synthesize, and apply the knowledge and skills from their specialty areas as well as from other areas of public health that are relevant to their professional goals, and a comprehensive, co-curricular Career Development Program to ensure that all graduates have the necessary competencies, techniques and professional confidence to effectively market themselves during the job search process and beyond.

### MPH Interdisciplinary Certificates

### **Functional Areas:**

- Community Assessment, Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation
- Environmental Health
- Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Global Health Program Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation
- Health Communication and Promotion
- Health Policy and Law
- Healthcare Management (CAHME accredited)
- Program Management

### **Context Areas:**

- Chronic and Non-Communicable Diseases
- Global Health
- Human Rights and Social Justice
- Infectious Disease
- Maternal and Child Health
- Mental Health and Substance Use
- Pharmaceutical Development, Delivery, and Access
- Sex, Sexuality, and Gender

### **Who Can Apply?**

Students with any undergraduate major may apply as long as they have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5.

**Note: The Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Environmental Health certificates are STEM designated programs.**

Global Select Scholars are also invited to apply to our Master of Science (MS) in Applied Biostatistics, which is 34 credits. There is a growing demand for biostatisticians with expertise in design and analysis of clinical trials and observational studies, statistical modeling skills for big data including genetic, genomic and health outcomes data, facility with multiple statistical computing programs, strong oral and written communication skills, and the ability to work effectively both independently and in interdisciplinary teams. The MS in Applied Biostatistics provides practical, affordable graduate training in applied biostatistics to meet the growing needs of employers for professionally trained biostatisticians.

**The MS in Applied Biostatistics prepares students for successful careers in:**

- Biomedical research enterprises
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Contract research organizations
- Research positions in associations, foundations, and nonprofit organizations

### **Who Can Apply?**

Students with any undergraduate major may apply as long as they have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5. and one year of calculus, including multivariate calculus, and formal coursework in linear algebra and grades of B or better in each course.

**Note: The MS in Applied Biostatistics is a STEM designated program.**

How long does it take to complete a master's degree?

Our masters programs can be completed in various formats ranging from 1 year accelerated to 3 year part-time. The most popular format for international students is the 2 year program format (See Sample Program Formats below).

## How Do Global Scholars Apply?

Global Select Scholars apply for admission to the BUSPH master's program of their choosing by February 1 of their next to last year of undergraduate study with approval from their undergraduate faculty advisor/advising office at their home institution.

### Application Requirements:

- All applicants must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 to apply.
- All international applicants whose native language is not English must submit an English language proficiency exam (e.g., TOEFL or IELTS). A minimum score of 100 is required on the TOEFL and a minimum score of 7.0 is required on the IELTS.
- Applications are submitted through the Schools of Public Health Application Service (SOPHAS), a centralized, online system. Applicants must submit official transcripts, evidence of English language proficiency, three letters of recommendation and a personal statement (a narrative addressing the reasons they are pursuing the master's degree, why BUSPH and how they intend to use the degree once completed) and a current resume.
- GRE test results are not required as part of the application. However, students interested in subsequently applying for doctoral programs may be required to take the GRE, depending on the requirements of the specific doctoral program.

All applications to the Global Select Scholars program are reviewed by faculty at BUSPH who determine whether the applicant is qualified for admission.

All qualified applicants are then interviewed by faculty and staff from the Office of Admissions at BUSPH to determine admission status.

Students are conditionally admitted to a master's program at BUSPH. Final admission is granted once the student has completed all undergraduate degree requirements while maintaining at least a 3.5 GPA upon graduation.

## Financing

Tuition and fees for BUSPH programs are set by Boston University. For 2018-2019, the cost per credit is \$1651. The total tuition charge for the 48-credit MPH is \$79,248, and the total tuition charge for the 34-credit MS is \$56,134, payable over a 2 year period. There is also a \$120 program fee per fall and spring semesters and a \$206 health and wellness fee per semester for full-time students.

Global Select Scholars have access to scholarships to support up to 25% of their graduate tuition.

## Sample Program Formats

Master of Public Health, 48 credits

Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring
Quantitative Methods for Public Health	Functional certificate course 1	Practicum	Functional certificate course 3	Functional certificate course 4
Individual, Community and Population Health	Functional certificate course 2		Context certificate course 3 or elective	Elective
Health Law, Policy and Management	Context certificate course 1 or elective		Practicum	Integrative Learning Experience
Leadership and Management for Public Health	Context certificate course 2 or elective			

### Functional Certificate Options (Choose one, 16 cr):

Community Assessment, Program Design, Implementation, and Evaluation  
 Environmental Health  
 Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
 Global Health Program Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation  
 Health Policy and Law  
 Health Communication and Promotion  
 Healthcare Management (CAHME accredited)  
 Program Management

### Context Certificate Options (Choose one, 12 cr):

Chronic and Non-Communicable Diseases  
 Global Health  
 Human Rights and Social Justice  
 Infectious Disease  
 Maternal and Child Health  
 Mental Health and Substance Use  
 Pharmaceutical Development, Delivery, and Access  
 Sex, Sexuality, and Gender

Master of Science in Applied Biostatistics, 34 credits

Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring
Accelerated Statistics Training for Biostatisticians*, 2cr	Generalized Linear Models, 4 cr	Practical Training (400+ hours)	Analysis of Correlated Data, 4cr	Bayesian Modeling, 2 cr
Multivariable Analysis for Biostatisticians, 4 cr	Applied Biostatistics in Clinical Trials, 4 cr		Statistical Genetics I, 4 cr	Professional Development Course
Statistical Programming for Biostatisticians, 2 cr	Genomics and Data Mining, 2 cr		Public Health Surveillance, 2 cr	
Statistical Methods in Epidemiology, 4 cr	Research Rotation		Journal Club/ Research Seminar	

\*Note that the Accelerated Training for Biostatistics course runs in August