

Community and Behavioral Health, PhD

Admission

PhD applicants must apply through the Schools of Public Health Application Service (SOPHAS). Applications must include academic transcripts, three letters of recommendation, statement of purpose, and a writing sample. International transcripts should be evaluated by the World Education Service (WES) and submitted to SOPHAS. For detailed application information, visit [How to Apply to the PhD in Community and Behavioral Health](#) on the Department of Community and Behavioral Health website.

The community and behavioral health admission committee considers several factors when evaluating applications for admission, including grade-point averages, letters of recommendation, intent, and motivation for graduate study, and research interests. Students with deficiencies in one area may be admitted if all other components of their application are very strong.

Applicants must have a graduate grade-point average of at least 3.40 and have earned a graduate degree from an accredited college or university in a related public health, social science, or clinical health field. Applicants who do not hold a graduate degree should apply to a master's program prior to application for the PhD program. PhD program applicants also must submit their master's thesis, or if no thesis is available, a sample of their scholarly writing.

Applicants whose first language is not English must submit official test scores to verify English proficiency. Applicants can verify English proficiency by submitting official test scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or DuoLingo. An acceptable TOEFL score is a minimum of 600 (250 computer-based test or 100 internet-based test), a minimum IELTS score of 7.0 (with no subscore lower than 6.0) or a DuoLingo score over 105. Automatic waivers of this requirement are granted for persons who have, or will have, completed a bachelor's degree or more advanced degree at an accredited university in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada (excluding French Quebec), Africa (English speaking), Australia, or New Zealand.

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the [Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website](#).

The application deadline is Jan. 15 for the fall semester. Applications are not accepted for spring or summer semesters.