PharmD/MPH Dual Degree

Pharmacy seeks to inspire, educate and support innovative leaders to advance the common good in a diverse world, while SPH advances excellence in research, education, and outreach for the protection, restoration and promotion of health, well-being, security and safety.

Each school has nationally recognized faculty in the areas of management and administration, education, policy, and population with leadership roles at the local, state and national levels.

A key feature of the PharmD/MPH is that up to 14 credits from each program may be double-counted, which saves you valuable tuition cost and time. The MPH degree requires 42 credits. The PharmD requires a minimum of 140 credits. It is expected that the double-counting of up to 14 credits could reduce the amount of time required for the PharmD/MPH by a year (from a total of six years to five years).

You will be assigned a faculty advisor from both programs and also have the resources of the programs’ advisors and coordinators.

Many of the MPH elective courses are offered at the Public Health Institute (PHI) during the University of Minnesota’s three-week May session — in the last week in May and first weeks in June. The PHI offers course topics that are timely and current to public health and are taught in a non-traditional concentrated formats, enabling students to complete up to 7 credits in three weeks. Examples of PHI course topics include Public Health Law, Risk Communication, Introduction to GIS, and Social Epidemiology.

“Pharmacists have the potential to contribute greatly to the public health goals of prevention by improving patient outcomes without increasing overall costs and by promoting community health. In many cases, prescription medications for chronic conditions can be thought of as an investment towards prevention of life-threatening diseases. Pharmacists play a vital role in prevention of disease and therefore, public health, by finding cheaper alternatives when cost becomes a barrier for adherence, assessing pharmacotherapy to provide optimal risk reduction in disease outcomes, counseling in order to overcome barriers to adherence, and providing professional advice on prescription drug plans and insurance coverage to minimize unexpected prescription costs”

Laura Palombi, PharmD/MPH student
Program Curriculum & Sample Schedule

Year One

Fall Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy
Spring Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy
Summer Session - Register in School of Public Health
PubH 6299 Public Health is a Team Sport, 1 cr (R)
Public Health Institute - Focus/elective courses, 6.5 cr (E)
Online - PubH 6414 Biostatistical Methods, 3 cr (R)
Online - PubH 6320 Fundamentals of Epidemiology, 3 cr (R)

Year Two

Fall Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy
Spring Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy
Summer Session - Register in School of Public Health
Public Health Institute - Focus/elective courses, 6 cr (E)
Online – PubH 6741 Ethics in PH: Prof Practice & Policy, 1 cr (R)
Online – PubH 6751 Prin of Mgmt in Health Services Org, 2 cr (R)
Online – PubH 6020 Fundamentals of Social & Behavioral Sci, 3 cr (R)
Online – PubH 6102 Issues in Envir & Occu Health, 2 cr (R)

Year Three

Fall Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy – including 3 credits of public health courses that count as electives for both degrees. Start working on research course that will fit the requirements of MPH PubH 7294 culminating experience too.
Spring Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy – including 3 credits of public health courses that count as electives for both degrees.
Summer Session - Register full-time in the College of Pharmacy (transfer Phar7XXX to MPH to meet the MPH PubH 7296 field experience requirement 4 cr)

Year Four

Fall Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy. Continue to work on research course that fulfill the MPH PubH 7294 culminating experience.
Spring Semester - Register full-time in College of Pharmacy. Finish work on research course that fulfill the MPH PubH 7294 culminating experience.

The College of Pharmacy Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). The School of Public Health is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).