



## Doctor in Public Health with Specialty in Health Systems Analysis and Management (DrPH - HSAM)

### What is a DrPH in Public Health? 1.

The Doctor in Public Health represents advanced competency training in public health practice skills, differentiating it from the MPH. The DrPH in Health Systems Analysis and Management incorporates through its curriculum the knowledge and skills needed to facilitate the analysis and evaluation for evidence-based decisions in the public health systems among its students. The DrPH program prepares future public health leaders capable of influencing policies, programs, and institutions through their knowledge, skills and attitudes in health systems in order to maximize public health.

### What is the Program's Mission?

The doctoral program in Public Health with a specialty in HSAM provides advanced level training in decision-making analysis leadership, and applied public health research for the improvement of health systems in order to enhance public health. It is focused on understanding and learning to apply advanced knowledge and skills to complex and real world problems in the public health field in general, and health systems and services in particular, to assure that public health systems are capable of performing essential functions. The Program prepares public health professionals for PR, the US and other countries with the competencies to perform as advisors, consultants, and any other position that deals with analyses, design, planning, development, management, and improvement of health systems.

### General Admission Requirements:

Applicants must comply with all the following general admission requirements:

- A master's degree in the disciplines offered by schools of public health recognized by the international academic community. Applicants with masters' degrees in other disciplines will also be accepted if they completed one graduate course in each of the following areas: statistics or biostatistics, epidemiology and a general introductory public health course. It is highly recommended that admission candidates have knowledge and skills in informatics and its applications.
- A grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or above, or its equivalent during their graduate course work. Applicants with GPA between 3.0-3.5 may be considered if other criteria add to a composite admission score of 80% or above according to UPR GSPH admission decision formula.
- Experience in service, research, management or teaching in the field of public health is recommended.
- Proficiency in Spanish and English, and the capability to undertake doctoral studies as demonstrated by the score on the EXADEP or GRE. EXADEP scores above 550 are highly recommended.

- Attend an interview with the Doctoral Program Admissions Committee.
- Submit an application form with official academic transcripts (master or doctoral level) and curriculum vitae.
- Three letters of recommendation that follow the format approved by the Doctoral Program Admissions Committee. - One of the recommendation letters should be requested from professors who are able to comment on your qualifications for graduate study.
- A written essay on the day of the interview using a word processor.

### What benefits are gained upon completing the DrPH?

Graduates of the Doctor in Public Health with a specialty in HSAM will be professionals with the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for the appraisal of the structure, function, and other organizational, economic, financial, social, legal, political, and policy factors that affects decision making within the public health systems. The program stresses decision-making analysis, leadership and applied public health research to facilitate effective changes and improve the public health systems.

### What employment opportunities are open to the graduates of the DrPH?

The DrPH program prepares public health professionals with the overall competencies to perform as advisors, consultants, and any other position that deals with analysis, design, planning, management, development, and improvement of health systems. Graduate of this doctoral program may be employed in diverse settings at local or national level, in the public or private sector, in for-profit and non-profit public health organizations that comprise health systems, and private consulting firms.

### What are the main curricular components of the DrPH?

The curriculum for the DrPH in Health Systems Analysis and Management has three main components: (1) Core Courses in Public Health and courses in Health Systems Analysis and Management, (2) the professional practicum experience (200 hours), and (3) the applied research with doctoral dissertation that will integrate the public health and specialty components. The Program will require a minimum of 55 trimester credit hours distributed in these three components. The DrPH in HSAM Program has four-year duration. The DrPH in HASM is an evening program requiring some daytime work during the 200 hours practicum. This doctoral degree is design to be completed in an 8 years maximum.

<b>Curricular Scheme of the DrPH with Specialty in Health Systems Analysis and Management</b>
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- **18 trimester credit hours in Core Public Health Courses**
  - ADSS 8005 Organizational & Administrative Elements of Health Services (3 trimester credits)
  - BIOE 8005 Advanced Methods in Biostatistics (3 trimester credits)
  - CISO 8005 Culture, Social Inequity and Community Health (3 trimester credits)
  - EPID 8002 Advanced Methods in Epidemiology (3 trimester credits)
  - SAAM 8005 Fundamentals of Environmental Health (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Public Health Leadership (2 trimester credits)
  - SALP 8007 Bioethics and Public Health Practice (1 trimester credit)
  
- **22 trimester credits in the Health Systems Analysis and Management Specialty**
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Health Policy (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Organizational Development and Change in Health Services Organizations (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Health Law (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Economic Analysis for Health Systems Management (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Financial Management for Health Systems (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Health Systems Planning (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Evaluation and Decision Making for Health Services (2 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Health System Analysis (2 trimester credit)
  
- **9 trimester credits in Applied Research**
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Health Services Research (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Dissertation Proposal in Health Systems (3 trimester credits)
  - ADSS 8\_\_ Doctoral Dissertation in Health Systems (3 trimester credits)
  
- **0 trimester credits in 200 hours Practicum in Health Systems Analysis and Management (may require some daytime workhours)**
  
- **6 trimester credits in Free Electives**

<b>Specific Specialty Admission Requirements</b>
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1. Applicants interested in the Health Systems Analysis and Management specialty must have completed the following requisite courses at the graduate level, prior to admission to the DrPH: (1) precalculus or equivalent, (2) finances, (3) statistical inference or equivalent, and (4) economics; each requisite course with a passing grade of at least a "B".
  
2. Computer literacy in MS Word, MS Excel, MS Power Point, and at least one statistical software package such as SPSS, STATA, EPI-INFO, SYSTAT or SAS is highly recommended.