8.0 Frequently Asked Questions about the ECU MPH program

- **How many credit hours are required for graduation?** 45 semester credit hours.
- **Are all students required to complete an internship in public health?** Yes. The internship is an integral component of the MPH Program. Students with substantial previous field experience may petition to be exempt from the internship requirement or a portion thereof. Exemption is at the discretion of the MPH Program Director.
- **How long will it take to complete the degree requirements?** It depends on whether you pursue this on a full-time basis or part-time. Students can complete the program in 2 to 4 years.
- **Can I transfer courses from another master of public health program or graduate school?** With approval of the program director and Dean of the Graduate School, up to 12 credit hours may be transferred, depending on how well a course matches the ECU MPH course substituted and accreditation standards.
- **Are courses offered in the evening?** Most courses are offered in the late afternoon or early evening once per week for three hours.
- **Can I take courses on-line?** The MPH program was not designed to be offered completely online in a distance education format. Many courses are available in distance education format, but some core and concentration courses are not offered online. Courses with sections ending in 601 are online courses. Courses with section 001 are face-to-face courses. Some courses are offered in both formats, but this varies by semester. Typically courses meet 1 day per week for 3 hours typically after 3 pm.
- **How do I apply?** Through an application to the ECU graduate school at www.ecu.edu/gradschool/. All supplemental materials will need to be sent to the Graduate School.
- **What is the application deadline?** Deadlines for submission of admission applications are April 15 for fall semester and October 15 for spring semester. Prospective students are strongly urged to apply well before the deadline. Late admission will be considered based on program capacity.
- **Are students accepted only for fall admission?** No, the MPH Program admits students for the spring semester as well.
- **What is the minimum GPA required?** Until the program has experience upon which to judge the ability of students to successfully complete the MPH program, the minimum standards of the ECU graduate school apply - a minimum overall undergraduate GPA of 2.7 or a senior year GPA of 3.0.
- **What entrance exams and scores are required?** The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is used as one gauge of an applicant's ability to successfully complete the program. We require applicants to take the GRE. A combined GRE score of 309 or greater is desirable. Acceptance into the program is based on evaluation of the applicant's record of scholarship, standardized test scores, professional experience and accomplishments, the essay, references, and interview (if conducted). Potential exceptions include applicants pursuing the dual MD/MPH degree, or practicing professionals with a clinical degree, such as medical residents, fellows, or family nurse practitioners. MAT exams are not accepted.
- **Must I take the Graduate Record Exam if I have already completed a graduate degree?** It depends on what the graduate program was, how recently you completed it, and what your grades were in the program. If you are interested in waiving the GRE, you must receive written consent from the MPH Program Director BEFORE the application deadline.
- **How do I find more about the Graduate Record Exam (GRE)?** Go to http://www.ets.org/gre
• **Is there any financial aid?** Financial Aid is limited. See the information at http://www.ecu.edu/financial/

• **Is the program accredited?** ECU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges. The MPH Program was fully accredited in 2012 for seven years by Council on Education for Public Health.

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**Contact information**

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