Admissions Requirements

Admission is open to qualified applicants from many disciplinary backgrounds. Our program seeks students with strong potential for independent scholarship in Behavioral and Social Health Sciences, evidenced by excellence in relevant coursework and recommendations from those in a good position to evaluate the applicant’s capabilities to pursue graduate-level research. The most competitive applicants will hold a Master’s degree in Public Health or in a behavioral or social science field (e.g., psychology, sociology, anthropology, education, communication). To be prepared to complete the doctoral degree requirements, applicants must have completed undergraduate or graduate level calculus, and some statistics or probability coursework; and demonstrate research experience relevant to public health.

Students will be matched with a faculty research mentor upon admission, and therefore should identify potential specific faculty mentors in their application. Applicants should review the list of faculty in the Behavioral and Social Sciences Department, and contact those whose research corresponds with their own interests. In order to facilitate a meaningful conversation and/or appropriate referral to other faculty colleagues, please include a description of your research interests/training goals and a CV when contacting potential faculty mentors. Admission will signify acceptance by a faculty mentor.

Results from a recent Graduate Record Examination (within five years) are required. Subject test scores may be submitted but are not required. Other standardized tests (e.g. MCAT, LSAT) may not substitute for the GRE. GRE scores are interpreted in the context of the entire application; there is no minimum score required. TOEFL scores are required for students whose native language is not English, but may be waived for those who hold a Bachelors or Master’s degree from a US institution.

Those wishing to pursue a doctoral degree in Behavioral and Social Health Sciences must complete a University application. Materials are available at the Graduate School Website.

The application deadline is December 15 for Fall admission. Written notification is made by the Graduate School, usually in February and March.