



The Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education's mission is to better the health of all people by advancing knowledge and training tomorrow's leaders in how to change behavior and social conditions that influence health.

Public Health

Behavioral Sciences and Health Education

Behavioral Sciences and Health Education (BSHE) is an interdisciplinary program dedicated to training leaders in the effort to identify, analyze and intervene in today's most pressing public health issues.

BSHE is committed to applying a broad spectrum of behavioral and social science knowledge, theory and methods to promote health, prevent disease and improve quality of life. We apply a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to research and advocate an ecological perspective to understanding and influencing the factors that shape health and illness. Our full-time faculty represent the disciplines of public health, psychology, sociology, epidemiology, demography, genetics and history. We are supported by faculty in other public health disciplines, medicine, nursing and in Emory's graduate programs of anthropology, sociology, and the Institute of Liberal Arts.

We are also committed to bringing applied public health experience to our research, teaching, and mentoring activities. Many faculty members have served at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in state or local health departments, or in international public health organizations. Leading health educators and behavioral scientists from the CDC, the American Cancer Society, and The Carter Center serve as adjunct faculty who teach and work closely with students. Our website has a complete list of our faculty members, along with information about research interests, publications, and more. Visit www.sph.emory.edu/bshe/faculty.php.

Professional Development

Laney offers a range of programs that encourages students to develop their professional skills, engage with broader professional communities, and prepare for their careers.

Visit gs.emory.edu to learn more.

Research Opportunities

Our faculty includes people who design, implement, and evaluate health promotion interventions that address some of the most challenging areas in public health. Areas of research interests include: risky sexual behaviors, tobacco and other substance use, community-based participatory research, intervention development, dissemination, and implementation research. BSHE faculty members are engaged in local, domestic, and global health.

BSHE faculty are currently involved in more than 30 research projects funded by federal government organizations such as the National Institutes of Health (e.g., NCI, NIEHS, NIAAA, NIDA, NIMH, NIMHD), CDC, Health Resources and Services Administration, Association of Schools of Public Health, and private foundations such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. They also work with the Georgia Division of Public Health and local health departments around Georgia.

Our website has an extensive list of ongoing and recently completed research projects, with detailed information about their scope, funding, and more. Visit www.sph.emory.edu/bshe/research.php.

Curriculum

We train doctoral students to become leaders in the field, focusing on the development of high-level skills to:

- conduct original research to identify individual and social determinants of health behaviors, illness, and disease;
- design, implement, and evaluate behavioral and structural interventions to prevent disease, reduce health risks, and improve the quality of life; and
- translate knowledge derived from research to promote public health.

Coursework

Students complete all required courses during their first two years. They also take some elective courses, and may continue to do so into their third year, depending on their research interests. The program is designed for full-time students.

Qualifying Exams

In the summer following their second year, students take a written qualifying exam.

Financial Support

The Laney Graduate School provides students admitted to the BSHE Program merit-based support packages consisting of full tuition scholarships each year. In addition, doctoral students receive an annual stipend for the initial two years and in the following years are supported on research projects by faculty investigators or fellowship and/or grant funding obtained by the student.

Training in Teaching

Scientists are often also teachers, whether in formal education or in the process of presenting to lay persons. At Emory, all doctoral students receive training in pedagogy and other elements of teaching, through the Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity Program (TATTO) administered by the Graduate School.



After a brief summer workshop (usually before the second year), students gain experience working as supervised teaching assistants and/or classroom instructors or co-instructors in our MPH program.

Research

During their first year, students immerse themselves in public health research by serving as research assistants. In the second year and beyond, students work with advisors to develop their own research interests and projects. We encourage students to work collaboratively with faculty members.

Dissertation

During their third year, students develop a dissertation proposal and assemble a committee to guide their work. A defense of the dissertation proposal serves as an oral qualifying exam.

We anticipate that most students will complete their degrees in four years.



Students in the department serve as teaching assistants for master's level courses, research assistants for various community research projects, and staff for health promotion activities coordinated by faculty members of the department. The philosophy of the department defines the role of the instructor as mentor, the student as practitioner, and the community as classroom.

BSHE graduates will hold positions in public and private universities and institutions participating in research and practice that are oriented to the promotion of health.

Requests for Additional Information

Recruitment and Admissions
Behavioral Sciences and Health Education
Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University
1518 Clifton Road, Suite 518
Atlanta, GA 30322
(404) 727-9868 (direct line)

bshephd@emory.edu
<http://www.sph.emory.edu/bshephd.php>

BSHE Application Deadline: December 2nd

About the Rollins School of Public Health

At Emory's Rollins School of Public Health, students learn to identify, analyze, and intervene in today's most pressing public health issues. The school is located in Atlanta, Georgia, often referred to as the "Public Health Capital of the World"—the city is also home to the U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CARE; the American Cancer Society; The Carter Center; the Arthritis Foundation; numerous state and regional health agencies; and health-related research programs of Emory University's Woodruff Health Sciences Center. This setting is ideal for hands-on research, collaborations with the world's leading public health agencies, and interdisciplinary work with national and international organizations.

The school comprises six academic departments: behavioral sciences and health education, biostatistics, environmental and occupational health, epidemiology, health policy and management, global health, and hosts over 20 interdisciplinary centers as well as a distance learning program.

In addition to five doctoral programs offered through the Laney Graduate School, the Rollins School of Public Health offers Master of Public Health, Master of Science in Public Health, Master of Science in Clinical Research (jointly with the Emory School of Medicine), and dual degree MPH programs with the schools of business, law, medicine, physician assistant, and nursing.

Visit www.sph.emory.edu.



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Laney Graduate School Degree Programs

- Anthropology
- Art History
- Behavioral Sciences and Health Education
- Bioethics
- Biological and Biomedical Sciences
- Biochemistry, Cell and Developmental Biology
- Cancer Biology
- Genetics and Molecular Biology
- Immunology and Molecular Pathogenesis
- Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
- Molecular and Systems Pharmacology
- Neuroscience
- Population Biology, Ecology, and Evolution
- Biomedical Engineering
- Biostatistics
- Business
- Chemistry
- Clinical Psychology
- Cognition and Development (Psychology)
- Comparative Literature
- Computer Science and Informatics
- Development Practice
- Economics
- English
- Environmental Health Sciences
- Environmental Sciences
- Epidemiology
- Film and Media Studies
- French
- History
- Health Services Research and Health Policy
- Islamic Civilizations Studies
- Mathematics
- MD/PhD
- Music
- Neuroscience and Animal Behavior (Psychology)
- Nursing
- Nutrition and Health Sciences
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Religion
- Sociology
- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies