

Overview of the School

At the Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH), students learn to identify, analyze, and intervene in today's most pressing public health issues. The school's location in Atlanta, referred to as the "Public Health Capital of the World," also is home to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CARE; the national headquarters of the American Cancer Society and the Arthritis Foundation; The Carter Center; numerous state and regional health agencies; and the patient care, teaching, 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, abundant opportunities for student practicum experiences, faculty resources within the practice community and interdisciplinary work with national and international organizations.

The Rollins School of Public Health is one of six independent professional schools at Emory University. Administratively, the school is part of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC). The RSPH has been an independent school since its inception with the operational, fiscal, and programmatic responsibilities of any of the professional schools at Emory University. The school started in the form of the Masters of Community Health (MCH) program within the Emory School of Medicine, under the design of medical faculty members Bill Marine and Tom Sellers and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) director David Sencer. The MCH program admitted its first class of students in 1975. In 1983, Emory changed the program's name to Masters of Public Health to convey a larger worldview. The program became a division in 1989 and in 1990, Emory's Board of Trustees granted the division school status. The Rollins School of Public Health was first accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) in 1992. The school was most recently re-accredited in 2005.

The fall 2010 issue of *Public Health* magazine provides a complete history of the school. The magazine is available on site in the Resource Room, included in the mailings to site reviewers and is also located on the web at <http://whsc.emory.edu/home/publications/public-health/public-health/fall2010/index.html>

The school comprises six academic departments: Behavioral Sciences and Health Education, Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Environmental Health, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, Hubert Department of Global Health, as well as a distance education-based Career MPH (CMPH) degree program for working health professionals. The school also hosts over 20 interdisciplinary centers. More than 160 full-time faculty members teach and conduct research in areas such as mathematical modeling of infectious disease transmission, exploring relationships between nutrition and chronic disease, and investigating cancer causation and control. Other research interests include identifying the social determinants of health-risk behaviors, AIDS, developing church-based health promotion programs to foster changes in nutrition and other health-related behaviors, detecting and preventing adverse outcomes in occupational settings, and evaluating the cost of health care and the allocation of health resources. The school offers dual-degree programs with Emory's business, medical, nursing, theology and law schools as well as the physical therapy program and the physician's assistance program. In addition to these programs, the schools of public health and medicine collaborate on many levels. Research areas of mutual interest include nutrition, Alzheimer's disease, and the prevention and control of AIDS, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and adverse reproductive outcomes.

The RSPH program is community-oriented, and many students bring actual problem-solving experience with them. Students join the Rollins community from all fifty states and from more than forty foreign countries to contribute to the school and apply knowledge to promote health and prevent disease in human populations. The RSPH ranks sixth among the nation's 49 accredited schools of public health in U.S. News & World Report's 2012 edition of America's Best Graduate Schools.

Glossary

Term	Definition
ADAP	Assistant/associate directors of academic programs (ADAPs). ADAPs provide departmentally-based advisement to students. ADAPS monitor student progress from the point of admission through graduation and beyond, serving as an advocate based on individual student needs.
Administrative Staff	The Dean, Associate Deans, Assistant Deans, the Director of Information Technology and the Director of Communications
APT Guidelines	Appointment, Promotion and Tenure (APT) Guidelines are policies addressing the appointment and promotion of faculty.
CMPH	Career Master of Public Health (CMPH). A distance-based degree program for working health professionals.
Community Engaged In-Kind Contributions	Non-compensated, structured contributions that faculty and students make (i.e. panelists for lectures sponsored by the Student Government Association).
DGS	Directors of Graduate Studies (DGS). Faculty who direct PhD programs in various RSPH departments who are accountable to the dean of the Laney School of Graduate Studies, as well as to their own department chairs. DGS meet periodically with the RSPH executive associate dean for academic affairs to coordinate common activities and ensure integration of all doctoral degree programs within the school.
Dual Degrees	Degree programs that RSPH offers with other Emory University schools or programs, such as an MD/MPH offered with the Emory School of Medicine. Competencies and requirements for the MPH are identical for dual degree students and students completing the MPH alone.
Faculty, Core	Full-time faculty ($\geq .80$) who teach, as well as those who mentor students or who provide academic advisement to students regarding thesis, special studies project (SSP), directed studies, dissertation or practicum.
Faculty, Other	Adjunct, part-time, secondary or jointly-appointed faculty who teach a course or mentor students during the year.
GradInfo	Graduate Information Survey. An on-line survey administered by the Office of Career Services at three, six, and eleven months after graduation.
Interdepartmental Joint Degrees	MPH/MSPH degree programs jointed offered by two departments such as the MPH in Global Environmental Health.
IPA	Interagency Personnel Agreement (IPA) – A mechanism which allows full-time faculty to be employed part-time by an agency such as the CDC while remaining employed by the university.
Practicum Site Supervisor	Preceptor
TATTO	The Laney Graduate School requires all doctoral students complete the Teaching Assistant and Teacher Training Opportunity Program (TATTO) that involves common courses or workshops on the development of teaching skills. As part of the TATTO program, the school offers a required course for doctoral students in the public health sciences on teaching as applied to public health.
WHSC	The Rollins School of Public Health is one of three schools and one academic research center housed in the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC).

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