

A snapshot of the world's public health schools

Public health education has come of age as the following alphabetical list reveals. These institutions share at least one aspect in common – they all offer a master's degree in public health (MPH). The *Bulletin* invited institutions all over the world to send the most recent information available for possible inclusion in the following table.

School	Master's degree in public health (MPH) programme cost	Programme length	Teacher and student numbers	Developed versus developing country issues	Theory/classroom versus fieldwork	Students: domestic versus overseas	Jobs after MPH
Australia School of Population Health, University of Queensland Founded: 2001	Residents US\$ 11 400 (AU\$ 12 300) for two semesters; US\$ 17 130 (AU\$ 18 450) for three semesters. Foreign students US\$ 19 000 (AU\$ 20 500) or US\$ 28 500 (AU\$ 30 750), respectively	9–18 months	Around 275 students	A mixture: tropical diseases, nutrition, indigenous health, international health	Students spend 15–33% of their time on fieldwork, depending on whether they do project work or dissertation. Fieldwork is optional	Around 10% foreign students	Most use skills in present jobs or are clinicians looking for career change. Health departments, nongovernmental organizations and academia
Brazil Sergio Arouca Public Health National School, Brazil (FIOCRUZ) Founded: 1954	Around US\$ 8000: two kinds of MPH: academic (fees paid by school's public budget) and professional (fees paid by student's sponsoring institution)	2 years: 1 year in class, 1 year in research and writing dissertation	300 students 75 teachers	Wide array of topics covered from environmental health to toxicology, sanitation, public policy and health management	70% academic, 30% fieldwork	About 3% from Portuguese-speaking African countries and Latin America	Most work in public health service management or academia
China School of Public Health, Beijing University Founded: 1950	Not available	7 years	183 MPH students 29 professors and 28 associate professors teaching undergraduates as well as doctorate students	Covers epidemiology, biostatistics, occupational and environmental sciences, nutrition and food hygiene, among others	Not available	Not available	Mostly in preventive medicine, public health, health management and medical education; some work abroad
Egypt High Institute of Public Health, University of Alexandria Founded: 1956	Egyptians: 50 credit hours (1 hour = 50 Egyptian pounds or US\$ 7) Foreigners: US\$ 475 for the first year, US\$ 2 10 for the second year	2 years	165 teachers About 250–300 students at whole school, including 26 students on master's degree course	Focus on Egypt and the Middle East; covers nutrition, epidemiology, occupational health, among other topics	16 weeks spent on selected advanced courses; a thesis is prepared in second year	10–15% from abroad, from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and other Middle Eastern countries	Health services in Middle East and Arabic-speaking countries
Ghana University of Ghana, College of the Health Sciences, School of Public Health Founded: 1994	US\$ 15 000 for foreign students. Residents pay US\$ 10 000 but are mostly sponsored by Ghana's government or international agencies such as WHO	12 months	Around 35 students	Courses combine developed- and developing-country issues	2 semesters of academic work; up to 4 months of fieldwork	10% foreign students, from other African countries, Canada and USA	District or regional directors of health; jobs in international health agencies
Hungary University of Debrecen, School of Public Health Founded: 1996	US\$ 8000 per year	2 years (with 5-year limit)	21 full-time staff; 36 invited lecturers	Focus on epidemiology, health promotion, health-care management, health-care policy	Thesis required after a 12-credit summer research project	Foreign students but number not available	Not available
India Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, Kerala MPH since 1994	US\$ 2225 and US\$ 3335 for sponsored and non-sponsored residents. US\$ 4000 for foreign students	2 years	About 20 students 6 faculty staff; also visiting teachers for specializations	Mainly topics relevant to developing countries	Not available	33% foreign students	Government health ministries, international agencies, academia; in India and abroad

(Table, cont.)

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Kazakhstan Kazakhstan School of Public Health Founded: 1997	US\$ 1800	1 year	25 students 35 full-time academic staff, 35 part-time	Topics include health management and finance, epidemiology, statistics and health promotion	30–40% class work; 20–30% independent research; 20–30% fieldwork. Students volunteer at institutions such as hospitals a few days a week during one semester	All students are residents	Decided by Kazakhstan Ministry of Health; many find jobs in health departments of various institutions
Russian Federation Arkhangel'sk International School of Public Health, Northern State Medical University Founded: 2006	No fees. The school is funded by the Barents Health Programme of Norway's health ministry	2 years full time or 4 years part time	24 students currently enrolled; a further 30 students will be enrolled in 2008 30 lecturers from Finland, Norway, the Russian Federation and Sweden	Public health issues relevant to the north European part of the Russian Federation and placed in a global context	About 10% on fieldwork. A thesis for the MPH constitutes 25% of course work	Students recruited from 7 territories of north-western Russia, including Arkhangel'sk; plans to accept 1–2 foreign students in 2008	Regional and municipal health administration, and centres for disease prevention; research institutions and academia
South Africa University of Pretoria, School of Health Systems and Public Health Founded: 1998	Determined annually by Council of the University	2 years full time or 4 years part time	148 MPH students 22 teachers	Public health issues relevant to African countries	Research report constitutes 20% of final grade; 80% of grade based on classroom and exam (40% each)	30% foreign students from elsewhere in Africa	Leadership roles in health management, and the health-care system
Thailand Faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University Founded: 1948 (Mahidol founded in 1943)	US\$ 4200	1 year	34 faculty staff (17 associate professors, 8 assistant professors, 9 lecturers) 57 MPH students	Topics include community health service development, dental health, health promotion, health system reform	Students work in a health-care setting during the year, i.e. conducting a supervised study in a hospital	Current class: 34 foreign students, 23 residents	Not available
United Kingdom London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Founded: 1899	US\$ 9350 (£4500) for residents. US\$ 29 087 to US\$ 33 242 (£14 000 to £16 000) for foreign students. A masters programme by distance learning costs US\$ 18 347 (£8830)	1 year; distance learning 2–5 years	About 550 students per year on 18 public health-related masters courses in London and 1900 students studying 4 public health-related masters courses by distance learning Around 400 academic staff in London and additional distance learning teaching staff	Covers all public health topics and collaborates with institutions all over the world	Required summer project can include fieldwork, depending on student's background	60% from the United Kingdom or other European Union countries; 40% foreign students from all over the world	Leadership positions in public or nongovernmental and international agencies, academia, or as health practitioners
United States of America University of Iowa College of Public Health Founded: 1999	Residents US\$ 5 196 per semester. Foreign students US\$ 11 190 per semester (9+ credits)	4 semesters (about 2 years)	70 teachers 123 students	Courses combine developing- and developed-country issues	About 75% academic; 25% fieldwork	13% foreign students from Argentina, Bermuda, Germany, Ghana, India, Sudan; 87% are residents	Health departments, hospitals, universities, federal agencies, international and nongovernmental organizations