

Academic Programs and Planning (APP) Committee  
Feedback and Response Form

Thank you for your submission of the proposal titled BS in Health Science/Master of Public Health accelerated dual-degree program.

The APP committee reviewed the proposal on December 14, 2023 and requests the proposal authors use this form to respond to the following questions and or suggestions. Please submit your responses by January 11, 2024 to be considered in the next APP meeting.

Committee Suggestion/Clarification	Author Response
<p>The overlap between this and PUBH/MPH is high, with many of the curricular differences being non-substantive differences such as the HLTH version of a writing class rather than the PUBH writing class. Why then does this pathway make sense for students rather than encouraging students interested in the MPH to change their major to PUBH? In order to be ready for the accelerated degree, students need to be planning this pathway early enough that switching majors would appear to be feasible.</p>	<p>Thank you for this question. It gave us an opportunity to think about substantive reasons for doing this work.</p> <p>Public health has a long tradition of enlisting professionals from many different fields, so there is value in graduating MPH trained professionals who come from different undergraduate majors.</p> <p>Having the option on both programs honors the preference of students who may prefer one major over the other. Further, one of the purposes of this new concentration is to serve as a recruitment tool for both the BSHS and MPH programs.</p> <p>Another reason for keeping the concentration on both undergraduate programs is that it offers some more flexibility to Health Science students. For example, students who originally wanted to go to a clinical health profession (e.g., OT, PT), but who do not meet the requirements for those graduate programs</p>

	<p>or who otherwise change their minds, may want to switch to this accelerated dual degree. For those students, if they must change majors to Public Health first, switching to the accelerated dual degree option will add more time than switching to this concentration directly from the Health Science program.</p> <p>While it is true that transfer students may not be able to finish in 5 years, transfer students are made aware of the extra time it will require them to complete the program when their transfer credits are assessed. In general, transfer students agree to the delay when they agree to transfer to a different school or program.</p>
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The language of the proposal does not make clear that students have to formally apply to the master's degree. As written, students could simply declare the accelerated track, with automatic acceptance if they meet all of the requirements prior to starting their senior year. Please clarify whether or not the graduate school application process is needed.

Thank you for your question. This gave us the opportunity to clarify the process with Graduate Admissions, which is helpful for everyone involved.

The process for matriculation into the MPH is as follows: When dual degree students apply for graduation from their bachelor's degree (spring of year 4), they apply to the MPH using the "[Direct Entry](#)" application option. Working with preceptors, the MPH chair will provide Graduate Admissions with a list of students who meet the requirements for the

<p>In part D of the proposal, a possible curriculum map and course sequence is outlined which involves summer courses. Is there a way to complete the degree within 5 years without summer courses? If not, will students be permitted to complete both degrees within 6 years?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question and for the opportunity to provide clarification.</p>

This section now reads: *Once enrolled, to maintain accepted status in the dual degree program, all students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in their undergraduate and*