Education

The College of Public Health and Health Professions is one of only 46 U.S. universities that have achieved accreditation as a school of public health from the Council on Education for Public Health.

The college is composed of nine departments: behavioral science and community health; biostatistics; clinical and health psychology; environmental and global health; epidemiology; health services research, management and policy; occupational therapy; physical therapy; and speech, language, and hearing sciences. The college offers a bachelor of health science, six master’s, seven Ph.D. and two professional degree programs.

In 2010, the department of epidemiology and biostatistics became two departments. These departments are jointly administered by the College of Public Health and Health Professions and the College of Medicine, reflecting the departments’ collaborative missions to conduct research that capitalizes on synergies and to provide service that makes the best use of available resources.
The HPNP Complex, which opened in 2003, is home to the colleges of Public Health and Health Professions, Nursing and Pharmacy.

The College of Public Health and Health Professions attracts a diverse body of students, including many international students.

$19.2 million in research awards

Recipient of 1 of only 2 NIH-funded career development awards for rehabilitation research

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Research

The college’s research funding has more than doubled during the last decade, totaling over $19 million, and the college’s faculty members are among the most productive at the University of Florida. The college established the Florida Trauma Rehabilitation Center for Returning Military Personnel to advance rehabilitation science for a growing population of service members with complex and severe injuries. Environmental and global public health faculty members are examining strategies to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases and studying the effect of environmental factors on human health. Pediatric research has expanded with the development of clinical and translational studies in muscular dystrophy, childhood obesity and attention deficit disorder. In recent years, major awards to the college have also supported a broad range of topics, including Medicaid reform, fear and anxiety, smoking, substance abuse and patient treatment decisions.

Service

The speech, language, and hearing sciences department offers services at several UF&Shands locations, including Shands at UF, Hampton Oaks, Magnolia Parke and Park Avenue. The clinical and health psychology department provides psychological services for the entire Health Science Center and UF Physicians practices. Physical therapy students and faculty provide pro bono care to patients at the Equal Access Clinic and additional services to the community through student projects at locations such as Girl’s Place. Master of Public Health students volunteer regularly to promote health and nutrition in Gainesville area schools. Statewide community outreach is offered through the Florida Center for Medicaid and the Uninsured and the Florida Office on Disability and Health, the state’s first centralized program to coordinate Florida’s disability programs and services.

The college has launched a public health initiative in Haiti called A Better Tomorrow for Haiti. In addition, groups of students and faculty conduct annual international service projects in El Salvador, Mexico’s Yucatan Peninsula and Nicaragua.