



Jefferson College of Population Health

Master of Public Health

LEAP Pathway



Master of Public Health

LEAP Pathway

*MPH LEAP students are trained to be **L**eaders in **E**vidence, **A**pplication, and **P**revention — and they graduate ready to make a difference.*

The MPH LEAP Pathway is an accelerated course of study designed to increase the number of healthcare professionals who have advanced training in public health with the goal of promoting wellness, assuring quality and addressing the social determinants of health in the healthcare setting and in the community.

The MPH LEAP Pathway at the Jefferson College of Population Health is designed to complement the College's existing efforts to train future healthcare practitioners to be more effective providers and to contribute to population and community health. This program provides students with an opportunity to use their "glide year" to pursue an accelerated Master of Public Health (MPH) degree. The MPH LEAP Pathway provides training in leadership, epidemiology, biostatistics, research, health behavior, healthcare delivery, policy, advocacy, wellness and prevention.

Jefferson supports students on the MPH LEAP Pathway by providing a host of structured activities that are designed to augment classroom learning. These activities focus on the intersection of public health and health care, and include a journal club, a lecture series, and an enhanced field experience with a community organization and a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that focuses on prevention and health care for underserved and marginalized members of our community. In the field, students on the LEAP Pathway participate in interdisciplinary working group sessions with a variety of healthcare professionals, including social workers, dentists, nurses and physicians. Additionally, students on the LEAP Pathway work closely with faculty to design and complete an independent Capstone Project that focuses on a topic of their choice.

“Jefferson’s MPH program pushed me out of my comfort zone. The program has helped me improve my communication and research skills and I have learned so much about the healthcare system. While in the program I had experiences that will forever change the way I view medicine. I am sure this program will help me be a better healthcare provider. I feel ready for the next step in my training.”

—Katherine Brierley
LEAP student, MPH '18

Eligibility

MPH LEAP applicants must:

- Have a competitive undergraduate GPA
- Have competitive GRE, MCAT, PCAT or other relevant test scores (waived for applicants with GPA of 3.75 or higher)
- Plan to apply for additional graduate education within two years of program completion (including, but not limited to, allopathic medicine, pharmacy, psychology, dentistry, physician assistant, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social work, PhD or other doctoral training in a health-related field, midwifery, and graduate and advanced nursing practice programs).

Benefits

Students on the MPH LEAP Pathway will receive:

- A GPA-based scholarship
- Intensive faculty mentoring and support during the application process for medical school or other advanced training
- Free registration to the *Population Health Colloquium*, a large national meeting hosted by the College and held each year in Philadelphia
- Financial support (up to \$1,000) toward an MCAT, PCAT, DAT or similar clinical program entrance exam preparation course.

Expectations

Students on the MPH LEAP Pathway must be prepared to manage the workload of a traditional two-year program in one academic year. LEAP students are required to:

- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Complete the 120 hour applied practice experience (Clerkship)
- Complete an independent Capstone Project of publishable quality
- Attend monthly *Population Health Forums*, participate in Journal Club and attend LEAP Town Hall meetings.

Concentrations

LEAP students enroll in one of four concentrations:

- **Generalist:** Offers the greatest flexibility as students can choose their electives based on their interests
- **Public Health Analytics:** Provides a deep dive into both qualitative and quantitative data collection, data analysis, interpretation and visualization
- **Public Health Policy & Advocacy:** Focuses on the development and advocacy of public health policies and laws at the local, state, federal or international levels
- **Healthcare Quality & Safety:** Addresses quality and safety issues and frameworks within healthcare settings; perfect for students heading into the clinical space, either as a provider or administrator

Application Process

For more information and to apply online, please visit the program website at: [Jefferson.edu/MPHLEAP](https://jefferson.edu/MPHLEAP)

“The most outstanding part of my experience at Jefferson has been the relationships I have developed with the faculty. The support and mentorship I receive on a daily basis is tremendous and I can’t thank them enough for their dedication to the success of those who reach out to them.”

—John King
LEAP student, MPH '18

“I am truly learning so much more from this program than I ever could have imagined. This program is teaching me so much more than public health and has really opened my eyes to what is going on around me. I learn every day from the conversations that I have with my peers and professors about current events.

The resources and opportunities available to us here at Jefferson are invaluable. The faculty are truly amazing and care for students inside and outside of the classroom. The relationships and experiences garnered from this program are priceless and I will forever be grateful.”

—**Kimberly Kullmann**
LEAP student, MPH '18



The MPH program is accredited by the
Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)