

B3. Graduation Rates

The school collects and analyzes graduation rate data for each public health degree offered (e.g., BS, MPH, MS, PhD, DrPH).

The school achieves graduation rates of 70% or greater for bachelor’s and master’s degrees and 60% or greater for doctoral degrees.

1) *Graduation rate data for each degree in unit of accreditation. See Template B3-1.*

An academic year is considered summer, fall and spring. So the academic year of 2019-2020 is summer 2019, fall 2019 and spring 2020.

Template B3-1

Students in BS Degree, by Cohorts Entering Between 2017-2018 and 2022-2023							
Majors included: Public Health							
*Maximum Time to Graduate: 6 years							
	Cohort of Students	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20	'20-'21	'21-'22	'22-'23
2017-2018	# Students entering	140					
	# Students withdrew	0					
	# Students graduated	2					
	Cumulative graduation rate	1.4%					
2018-2019	# Students entering	138	103				
	# Students withdrew	1	1				
	# Students graduated	28	1				
	Cumulative graduation rate	21.4%	1.0%				
2019-2020	# Students entering	109	101	219			
	# Students withdrew	1	0	6			
	# Students graduated	37	18	3			
	Cumulative graduation rate	47.9%	18.4%	1.4%			
2020-2021	# Students entering	71	83	210	131		
	# Students withdrew	1	4	11	13		
	# Students graduated	66	6	19	1		
	Cumulative graduation rate	95.0%	24.3%	10.0%	0.8%		

2021-2022	# Students entering	4	73	180	117	133	
	# Students withdrew	1	2	2	10	9	
	# Students graduated	3	61	49	2	1	
	Cumulative graduation rate	97.1%	83.5%	32.4%	2.3%	0.8%	
2022-2023	# Students entering	0	10	135	105	123	101
	# Students withdrew	0	1	10	1	1	0
	# Students graduated	0	7	108	6	3	1
	Cumulative graduation rate	97.1%	90.3%	81.7%	6.9%	3.0%	1.0%

Students in MPH Degree, by Cohorts Entering Between 2018-2019 and 2022-2023						
Programs included: Biostatistics, Public Health Generalist, Environmental Health Science and Policy, Global Environmental Health, Climate and Health, Epidemiology, Physical Activity in Public Health, Public Health Nutrition, Global Health Epidemiology and Disease Control, Global Health Program Design, Monitoring and Evaluation, Global Health Policy, Humanitarian Health, Community-Oriented Primary Care, Public Health Communication and Marketing, Health Promotion, Maternal and Child Health, Health Policy, Health Informatics and Analytics, Women, Youth and Child Health, Global Health						
*Maximum Time to Graduate: 5 years						
	Cohort of Students	'18-'19	'19-'20	'20-'21	'21-'22	'22-'23
2018-2019	# Students entering	803				
	# Students withdrew	84				
	# Students graduated	0				
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%				
2019-2020	# Students entering	719	675			
	# Students withdrew	42	15			
	# Students graduated	247	0			
	Cumulative graduation rate	31%	0%			
2020-2021	# Students entering	430	660	913		
	# Students withdrew	38	71	56		
	# Students graduated	241	144	0		

	Cumulative graduation rate	61%	21%	0%		
2021-2022	# Students entering	151	445	857	865	
	# Students withdrew	10	36	85	27	
	# Students graduated	96	208	256	0	
	Cumulative graduation rate	73%	52%	28%	0%	
2022-2023	# Students entering	45	201	516	838	596
	# Students withdrew	18	7	26	43	16
	# Students graduated	27	140	255	291	0
	Cumulative graduation rate	76%	73%	56%	34%	0%

Students in DrPH Degree, by Cohorts Entering Between 2016-2017 and 2022-2023¹⁴								
Program included: Public Health Generalist ¹⁵								
*Maximum Time to Graduate: 7 years								
	Cohort of Students	'16-'17	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20	'20-'21	'21-'22	'22-'23
2016-2017	# Students entering	12						
	# Students withdrew, dropped, etc.	0						
	# Students graduated	0						
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%						
2017-2018	# Students entering	12						
	# Students withdrew	0						
	# Students graduated	0						
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%						
2018-2019	# Students entering	12		18				

¹⁴ Until 2020, the DrPH program accepted students biennially. Starting in 2021, the program began accepting students annually.

¹⁵ Residential program only as the online DrPH@GW did not accept students until the 2023-2024 academic year.

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	# Students withdrew	0		0				
	# Students graduated	0		0				
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%		0%				
2019-2020	# Students entering	12		18				
	# Students withdrew	0		0				
	# Students graduated	28		0				
	Cumulative graduation rate	17%		0%				
2020-2021	# Students entering	10		18		24		
	# Students withdrew	0		0		0		
	# Students graduated	3		3		0		
	Cumulative graduation rate	42%		17%		0%		
2021-2022	# Students entering	7		15		24	12	
	# Students withdrew	0		0		0	0	
	# Students graduated	0		2		0	0	
	Cumulative graduation rate	42%		28%		0%	0%	
2022-2023	# Students entering	7		13		24	12	25
	# Students withdrew	0		0		0	0	0
	# Students graduated	5		5		1	0	0
	Cumulative graduation rate	83%		56%		4%	0%	0%

Students in MS Degree, by Cohorts Entering Between 2018-2019 and 2022-2023						
Programs included: Public Health Microbiology and Emerging Infectious Disease, Health Data Science, Biostatistics and Health Data Science, Bioinformatics ¹⁶						
*Maximum Time to Graduate: 5 years						
	Cohort of Students	'18-'19	'19-'20	'20-'21	'21-'22	'22-'23
2018-2019	# Students entering	5				
	# Students withdrew	0				
	# Students graduated	0				
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%				
2019-2020	# Students entering	5	4			
	# Students withdrew	0	0			
	# Students graduated	2	0			
	Cumulative graduation rate	40%	0%			
2020-2021	# Students entering	3	4	14		
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0		
	# Students graduated	2	0	0		
	Cumulative graduation rate	80%	0%	0%		
2021-2022	# Students entering	1	4	14	19	
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0	0	
	# Students graduated	0	4	0	0	
	Cumulative graduation rate	80%	100%	0%	0%	
2022-2023	# Students entering	1	0	14	19	19
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0	0	0
	# Students graduated	1	0	10	10	0
	Cumulative graduation rate	100%	100%	71%	53%	0%

¹⁶ Does not include deactivated programs such as the MS in Epidemiology or the MS in Health Informatics and Analytics.

Students in PhD Degree, by Cohorts Entering Between 2016-2017 and 2022-2023									
Programs included: Environmental Health, Epidemiology, Global Public Health Sciences, Health Data Science (Biostatistics and Bioinformatics concentrations), Health Policy, Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health									
*Maximum Time to Graduate: 8 years (pre-2019), 7 years (2019 and later)¹⁷									
	Cohort of Students	'15-'16	'16-'17	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20	'20-'21	'21-'22	'22-'23
2015-2016	# Students entering	5							
	# Students withdrew	0							
	# Students graduated	0							
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%							
2016-2017	# Students entering	5	2						
	# Students withdrew	0	0						
	# Students graduated	0	0						
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%	0%						
2017-2018	# Students entering	5	2	4					
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0					
	# Students graduated	0	0	0					
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%	0%	0%					
2018-2019	# Students entering	5	2	4	11				
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0	0				
	# Students graduated	0	0	0	0				
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%	0%	0%	0%				
2019-2020	# Students entering	5	2	4	11	7			
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0	0	0			

¹⁷ Time to degree changed in 2019. Prior to 2019, students had eight years to complete the degree. In 2019 and later, that changed to seven years.

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	# Students graduated	0	1	0	0	0			
	Cumulative graduation rate	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%			
2020-2021	# Students entering	5	2	4	11	7	21		
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	# Students graduated	3	1	0	0	0	0		
	Cumulative graduation rate	60%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
2021-2022	# Students entering	2	1	4	11	7	21	19	
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	# Students graduated	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	
	Cumulative graduation rate	60%	50%	25%	27%	0%	0%	0%	
2022-2023	# Students entering	2	1	3	8	7	21	19	20
	# Students withdrew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	# Students graduated	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
	Cumulative graduation rate	80%	50%	25%	73%	0%	0%	0%	0%

2) *Data on doctoral student progression in the format of Template B3-2.*

Template B3-2

	DrPH¹⁸	PhD, Health Policy	PhD, Health Data Science, Bioinformatics	PhD, Health Data Science, Biostatistics	PhD, Environmental Health	PhD, Epidemiology	PhD, Global Public Health Sciences	PhD, Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	PhD, Exercise Physiology and Applied Nutrition
# newly admitted in 2022-2023	26	3	2	3	1	4	2	4	4
# currently enrolled (total) in 2022-2023	77	15	6	7	9	21	8	12	7
# completed coursework during 2021-2022	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	0
# in candidacy status (cumulative) during 2021-2022	32	6	0	0	6	16	0	5	1
# graduated in 2021-2022	5	0	0	0	1	3	0	2	0

¹⁸ DrPH includes both generalist and departmental-based DrPH students with the exception of the number of newly admitted students. In 2022-2023, only DrPH, Public Health Generalist students were admitted as the other programs were no longer accepting new students.

- 3) *Explain the data presented above, including identification of factors contributing to any rates that do not meet this criterion's expectations and plans to address these factors.*

All degree programs meet or exceed the graduation rate guidelines provided by CEPH.

- 4) *If applicable, assess strengths and weaknesses related to this criterion and plans for improvement in this area.*

Strengths

- All degree programs (residential and online) meet or exceed the graduation rate guidelines.

Challenges

- Despite our significant achievements, the formidable surge of competition and the imminent challenge posed by an anticipated demographic cliff in the near future represent critical hurdles that necessitate ongoing innovation and adaptation.

Future Plans

- As a school, we plan to closely review the retention rates of students, particularly in the undergraduate and MPH programs. We hope to learn more about why students are withdrawing from their programs so that we can address these challenges and improve BS and MPH graduation rates.