

# PhD Public Health Sciences Admission Requirements & Process

As part of this new doctoral degree program in Public Health Sciences at UC Davis, you will become a highly educated public health research professional prepared for leadership in governmental public health agencies, community-based public health organizations, and academic health centers. This research training will enable you to create innovative, evidence-based approaches to meet critical future societal health needs, particularly those of diverse populations. Students will also receive mentoring and experience teaching to educate the next generation of academic public health professionals and leaders in their field.

## DEADLINE

## WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE APPLICANT

**Priority Deadline**  
**December 1st**

Applicants who submit their application to the graduate program by the Priority Deadline will receive priority review for admission once their file is complete. Final deadline for supplemental materials (transcripts, letter of recommendations and GRE scores) is **February 14**.

**General Deadline**  
**January 15th**

Applicants who apply by the General Deadline (but after the Priority Deadline) will have their files formally reviewed for admission by the graduate program but will not be reviewed on a priority basis, once their file is complete. Final deadline for supplemental materials (transcripts, letter of recommendations and GRE scores) is **February 14**.

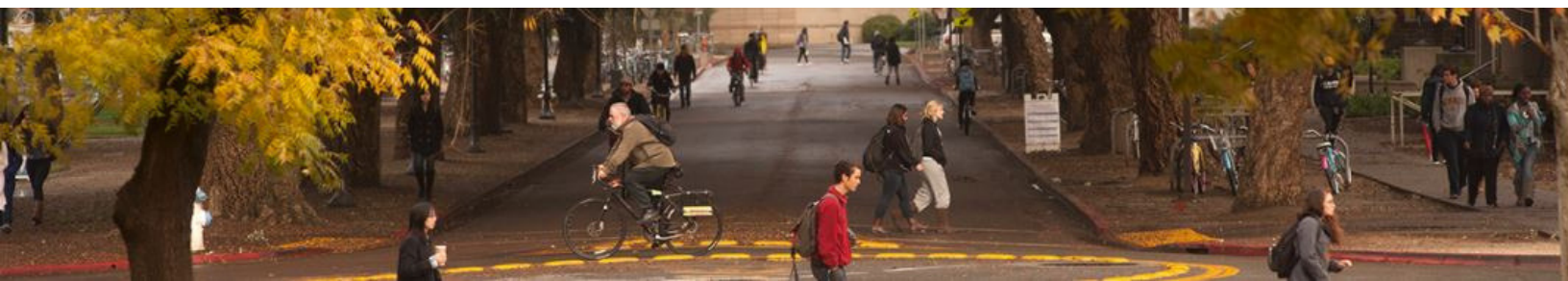
**Space Available  
Deadline**  
**June 1st**

Applicants who apply by the Space Available Deadline (but after the General Deadline) are not guaranteed to have their application reviewed by the graduate program. Their applications will be reviewed only if the graduate program determines that it has additional space available. Final deadline for supplemental materials (transcripts, letter of recommendations, and GRE scores) is **June 13**.



# UC DAVIS PhD PHS Academic Requirements

1. Applicants must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution with at least a 3.0 grade-point average (GPA) on graduation and a master's degree in public health or master's of science in public health or related field. An official transcript is required from each undergraduate or graduate institution you attended. You will be instructed to upload scanned copies of your transcripts after you have submitted your online application. For more details, please visit <https://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/submit-transcripts>. Prior UC Davis students do not need to order UC Davis transcripts. Once your application has been submitted your UC Davis transcripts will be requested for you. Please note that this does not apply to UC Davis Extension coursework. (All application materials, including transcripts and GRE scores, become the property of the University and cannot be borrowed, photocopied, returned to applicants, or sent elsewhere.)
2. Applicants must be in a good academic standing and must disclose any past or present academic misconduct, institutional actions, felonies and misdemeanors.
3. The following prerequisite courses are required for admission:  
**Master's Degree** in public health or a master's of science in public health or related field
4. Complete and submit results from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). For reporting scores, use the Institution Code: 4834 and Department Code: 0616. Note: GREs are required for all applicants and test scores must be taken within 7 years of application, except as noted. There is no minimum for test scores and no exceptions to the rules above.
5. The UCD Office of Graduate Studies requires the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) if your native language is not English or your instruction has not been in English. The minimum score required for admission to graduate study at UC Davis is 550 for the paper test or a score of 80 for the Internet-based test. TOEFL scores expire after two years. Scores that are older than two years will not be accepted by Graduate Studies. Although an 80 iBT score is the minimum required for admission, additional English language testing may be required of admitted students with iBT scores below 104.
6. CV and/or résumé listing your experience and background in public health.
7. A Statement of Purpose
8. Personal History and Diversity Statement
9. Three academic or professional recommendations (in English) are required. Letters of recommendation are submitted electronically through the online application. Letter service letters are not accepted. There are no exceptions to the online submission rule.



# Tips for Preparing your Statement of Purpose & Personal History and Diversity Statement

## Statement of Purpose\*

The online admission application asks you to describe your academic plans and research interests, your specialization within your academic field, your research experiences, your career goals, and fit for pursuing graduate study at UC Davis.

- Describe to us how you will be a successful PhD Student at UC Davis. Each statement you write should have a clear purpose.
- Keep the statement within the character limit (4000 characters) provided by the Office of Graduate Studies. Your statement should be clear, concise, and relevant.
- Do not let the Admissions Committee assume anything; be explicit in addressing the following:
  - 1) What in your background, history, training, and experiences (personal, professional, academic) have led you to pursue graduate training and a career in public health?
  - 2) What are your future career goals in public health (e.g., what health condition or population do you want to work with? What do you see as your contribution in public health)?
- Why do you need an PhD degree to meet your professional goals?
- Why UC Davis?

## Personal History and Diversity Statement\*

This statement should reflect on experiences and/or circumstances that are not directly related to your pursuit of graduate training in public health, but have an impact of your candidacy as an applicant. The more directly related something is to your application, the more appropriate it is to put in your Statement of Purpose.

In your Personal History & Diversity Statement:

- Address how your personal background (educational, familial, cultural, economic, social experiences, challenges, community services) contributes to the social, intellectual, or cultural diversity of public health and/or how you might serve educationally underrepresented segments of society with an PhD degree.
- Address any academic difficulties and/or challenges you may have had in school.

*\*These are merely suggestions and it should be noted that addressing all these suggestions does not guarantee admission to the PhD program. This may not be applicable or relevant to other PHD programs and you should check with each individual program on their requirements for admission.*