

# PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE



## WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE?

You can help people choose healthy lifestyles, promote disease prevention, advocate for clean air and water, or pursue a clinical career in a health care setting. Public health is a fast-growing field that constantly needs new professionals. You can go on to become a health and wellness promotion specialist, public health officer in a nonprofit or government agency, epidemiologist in a health department, health coach for a major insurance company, biostatistician, or a director of environmental health. The degree program also prepares students for professional studies in nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant and medicine. You will also be well-prepared to pursue advanced graduate degrees in public health, such as a Master of Public Health, a Doctor of Public Health or a Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health.

## MAJOR

- Public Health (BS)

## MINOR

- Public Health

## ACCELERATED PROGRAMS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Pre-Occupational Therapy (SRU) Accelerated 3+3 or Traditional\*
- Pre-Physician Assistant (SRU) Accelerated 3+2 or Traditional\*
- Pre-Physical Therapy (SRU) Accelerated 3+3 or Traditional\*

*\*SRU is required by the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement and US Department of Education to notify you whether our program meets the academic licensure/certification requirements in another state. All jurisdictions have their own requirements for licensure/certification eligibility. SRU is approved to offer programs that may lead to licensure/certification in Pennsylvania. We are unable to determine our program's eligibility in states other than PA. Please review the licensing board contact resource at [www.sru.edu/licensure-certification](http://www.sru.edu/licensure-certification) to seek guidance on the requirements of licensure in your home state or where you would like to practice professionally. Note that state requirements are subject to change at any time and without notice.*

**SlipperyRock**  
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System  
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

[www.sru.edu](http://www.sru.edu)

## PUBLIC HEALTH AT SRU

Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organized efforts. SRU's Public health program emphasizes healthy lifestyles; multicultural health needs; research and advances in health; service learning; and use of the latest health-related computer technology. In this program, you'll learn how to combine science, skills and behavioral theories to maintain and improve the health of people in our current society. The dynamic and progressive public health curriculum at SRU gives you the knowledge and skills to meet the growing demand for competent health professionals. This program provides you with hands-on learning experiences, internship opportunities and the ability to turn education into action through student organizations.

## WHY CHOOSE PUBLIC HEALTH AT SRU?

- 1. Student-centered faculty:** You will be taught by full-time faculty members who truly value teaching and provide real-life examples of public health practice to enhance your learning experience.
- 2. Professional networking opportunities:** All public health majors are encouraged to join the SRU Collegiate Chapter of the Pennsylvania Public Health Association. Meetings are held each month and feature presentations by SRU alumni currently employed in many different health promotion settings. In addition, students are afforded the opportunity to attend the annual Pennsylvania Public Health Association conference.
- 3. High quality internships:** At the conclusion of formal studies, public health majors complete a challenging full-time internship that allows students to work on-site with leaders in public health organizations including non-profits, government, business and health care.
- 4. Support and guidance:** Our department is committed to your success. Every undergraduate is assigned a faculty member as an academic adviser to guide you through your program of study and help you make decisions about educational and career goals.

## INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Our students have completed internships at various locations including:

- Keystone Wellness Programs, Evans City, Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Department of Health, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- UPMC Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- YMCA of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Women, Infants and Children, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Allegheny County Health Department, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Highmark, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Beaver County Heart and Cancer Association, Monaca, Pennsylvania
- Fayette County Community Action Agency, Uniontown, Pennsylvania

## CAREER OUTCOMES

While many students will continue their education after earning their bachelor's degree, graduates of the department have secured careers in the following areas:

- Public health educator, Pennsylvania Department of Health
- Associate fraud analyst, Highmark Inc.
- Physical therapist, Wise Physical Therapy, Inc.
- Epidemiologist, Ohio Department of Health
- CEO, Concordia Lutheran Services
- Occupational therapist, Akron Children's Hospital
- Physician assistant, VA Long Beach Health Care System
- Researcher, University of Pittsburgh Diabetes Institute
- Professor of Kinesiology, Marshall University

## CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- SRU Collegiate Chapter of the Pennsylvania Public Health Association
- Pre-Occupational Therapy Association
- Pre-Physical Therapy Club
- Pre-Physician Assistant Club



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### Lucas Boyd, '16

*Associate fraud analyst, Financial Investigations and Provider Review, Highmark Inc., Pittsburgh*

"SRU's public health program is more than a degree, it's an experience. The skills I learned set me apart from my peers in my field and allowed me to provide value to my community. The department enthusiastically challenges its students to become leaders. The faculty not only supported me in the classroom, but as a growing professional after my graduation."

### April Koehler, '16

*Hypertension initiative program coordinator, Division of Prevention and Primary Care, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, New York*

"The education I received at SRU gave me a rock-solid foundation that has been essential in helping me in my career. The real benefit of SRU has been my professors who pushed me to do my best and now are still engaged in my life as supportive advocates."

### William Storm, '02

*Epidemiologist and data administrator, Ohio Department of Health, Columbus, Ohio*

"My coursework at SRU challenged me intellectually and granted me opportunities to grow and learn in an engaging environment with some of the most well-respected and caring professors anywhere in the country. And, most importantly, SRU adequately prepared me for the next several chapters in my career. SRU will always be special as it gave me a solid foundation for growth, both personally and professionally."

## DEPARTMENT CONTACT:

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.sru.edu/majors](http://www.sru.edu/majors)

## ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

North Hall Welcome Center  
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