Career Opportunities in Public Health

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Walden University
Career Services Center
http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
What prompted you to join us today?
The Career Services Center Team

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Objectives

• Explore Public Health career options and trends
• Listen to alumni success stories
• Gain strategies to market yourself for the practicum experience
• Gain resources to build your experience and your professional network
Public Health Careers
Why Public Health?

• What prompted you to pursue your degree?
• What skills, strengths, and experience do you bring to the public health field?
• What is your end goal?

Would you like to learn more? Visit Career Services Center’s Self Knowledge Tab:
http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/careerservices/selfknowledge
What is Public Health?

- Behavioral Science & Health Education
- Biostatistics
- Environmental & Occupational Health
- Epidemiology
- Health Services Administration
- International/Global Health
- Maternal & Child Health
- Nutrition
- Public Health Laboratory Practice
Workforce Trends in Public Health

- 46.6 (average age of state public health workforce)
- 45-50% workforce of federal and state public health agencies eligible for retirement in next few years
- Workforce breakdown:
  - 19% employed with federal agencies
  - 33% employed with state agencies
  - 34% employed with local agencies
  - 14% employed in other settings (including teaching and research)

Source: Council on State Governments, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, National Association of State Personnel Executives. State Public Health Employee Shortage Report:
Public Health Career Planning: Job Functions

Possible Job Functions

• Community outreach and service
• Designing, implementing & evaluating educational programs
• Developing screening programs
• Developing community awareness programs
• Fiscal planning & management
• Fund raising
• Health communications
• Policy development
• Research
• Quality management/Accreditation
• Volunteer management
Work Settings

- Colleges and Universities
- Government (local, state or federal)
- Hospitals
- Insurance companies
- Managed care organizations
- Ministries of health
- Professional organizations
- Public and private foundations
- Public schools (K-12)
- Research and Development Organizations
- Substance abuse centers and agencies/rehabilitation centers
- Worksite Health Promotion

source: Associations of Schools of Public Health
Employment Status Upon Entry To MPH Program

- Employed fulltime: 64%
- Employed part time: 6%
- Self-employed: 4%
- Not employed but looking for work: 14%
- Not employed and not looking for work: 2%
- Homemaker: 2%
- Student: 8%
Employment Settings of MPH Students

- Healthcare: 46%
- Public Health: 31%
- Public Administration: 8%
- Other: 3%
- Technology/Engineering: 3%
- Business/Management: 3%
- Human Services and Social Services: 3%
- P-12: 3%
Gain Experience
Establish Your Public Health “Niche”

- What aspect of public health am I most passionate about?
- What populations do I enjoy working with?
Build Experience Through Volunteering

Discover volunteer opportunities:
• “Test the waters”
• Gain experience and skills
• Expand your professional network

http://academicguides.waldenu.edu/careerservices/careerwebinars/socialchange
Be Proactive!

- Contact organizations directly
- Research the mission/vision of the organization; client population; staff
- Provide ideas for projects
Tips for Career Success

• Serve your community in any way you can
• Attend and get involved in local events and health screenings
• Make a difference and make connections. That’s how you bring about social change.
Networking
Connect with Professionals in the Field
Both Online and Face-to-Face

- Join professional associations
- Attend professional conferences, workshops, and events
- Join related LinkedIn groups
- Showcase your knowledge, skills, and strengths
- Build your professional network!
Public Health

- American College of Epidemiology
- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
- Association of Schools of Public Health
- International Epidemiological Association
- National Association of Community Health Centers
- National Environmental Health Association
- The American Public Health Association
- The Society for Epidemiological Research

- Careers in Health

Walden University’s Degree Guide for Careers in Health

http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
Join LinkedIn Groups in Your Field

Join [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) to participate in Groups!
Schedule Informational Interviews

• Ask for 20-30 minutes of their time
• Gain insights into your profession (career paths, typical day, additional skills needed)
• Showcase your knowledge, skills, and strengths
• Build your professional network!
Tips for Career Success

• Be proactive and connect with as many individuals as possible
• Pursue whatever interests you
• Be flexible and keep an open mind
Prepare for Your Practicum and Beyond
Tips for Career Success

- Be conscientious about your circle of influence and opportunities to contribute and create meaningful impact
- Deliberately seek out opportunities to learn more and develop professionally

LaTonya Wilkerson, MPH
Walden University
Consider Your Next Steps

What additional *training* will help increase your marketability?

What *doctoral programs* are available to advance in your public health career?
Continue to Build Your Qualifications and Reputation

• Get involved in professional associations
• Assume leadership roles
• Share your knowledge with others
• Contribute to your community
Questions?
Resources to Research Potential Careers

Walden University’s Career Options by Program
Bachelor’s, Master’s and Doctoral Degrees in Public Health: https://www.waldenu.edu/programs/

Occupational Outlook Handbook
http://www.bls.gov/oco/

ONET Online
http://www.onetonline.org
http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
Walden Career Services Public Health Resources

http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
View 80+ Archived Webinars!

**Telling Your Career Story**

Click to watch the video

Presenters: Dr. Krista Laursen, Jennifer Farinella, Dr. Dania Thomas, Dr. Betsy List, and Nicolle Skalski

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**Mobilize and Organize Your Job Search**

Click to watch the video

Presenters: Angie Lira and Denise Pranke

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**Craft Your Career Plan**

Click to watch the video

Presenter: Lisa Cook

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**Maximizing Career Success Through Strategic Volunteering**

Click to watch the video

Presenters: Dr. Bill Schulz and Dr. Tonya Howard
Connect with Career Services

Access Everything from Our Website:
http://careercenter.waldenu.edu

E-mail: careerservices@waldenu.edu
Thank You for Participating!

The greatest medicine of all is to teach people how not to need it.

~ Anonymous