**Applying to the MPH Program**

The Cornell MPH program seeks to recruit students from diverse backgrounds to create a transdisciplinary learning environment that will equip graduates to assess and address issues of public health importance. The program will focus on skills and competencies that are in line with the essential public health services, and will ask practitioners to consider and address health from a One Health and Planetary Health perspective.

To achieve these outcomes, students will be expected to do well in math-based courses (epidemiology, statistics), science-based courses (infection, immunity, environmental health), and humanities-based courses (social and behavioral sciences, policy, ethics, leadership), and have comfort with significant group work and case-based learning. Students will also be expected to spend a substantial amount of time working with and for the public. If any of these elements do not align with your interests or abilities, this program may not be right for you.

**Academic Requirements**

To do well in this program, we suggest that you have completed:

* An undergraduate degree in applicable field, such as a BA or BS in: agricultural sciences; applied economics and management; biological sciences; biology and society; development sociology; entomology; environmental and sustainability sciences; food science; global and public health science; government; human biology, health and society; international agriculture and rural development; nutritional science; policy analysis and management

—OR—

* A health-related professional degree (e.g., DVM, MD, RN, NP, MSN, MHA, MOT, MPT)

—OR—

* Another advanced degree.

If you received a degree internationally, please be sure it meets the [Graduate School requirements](http://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/applying/international-degree-equivalencies).

**Test Requirements**

Applicants will be required to submit scores from either the GRE general test or the GMAT.

In addition, applicants for whom English is a second language must submit scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

**Experience Requirements**

Admission to the Cornell MPH program will also require a history of professional or field-based experience that demonstrates an awareness of public health needs (e.g., health-related policy or practice work with impacted communities in the U.S. or internationally; health-related research that has the potential for population-level impact; etc.). Ideally, applicants will have between six months and two years of supervised school-based or professional work experience in a human, animal, agricultural, or environmental health field.

Although prior work experience is valuable, exceptions on this criterion may be considered for recent undergraduate students who have been involved in—and demonstrated exceptional leadership within—months of public-health related field work. These candidates would need to demonstrate this via reference letters from the supervising facility.

**Program Options – Full Time, Accelerated, Part Time**

The MPH program is designed to be completed over a 21-month period, including four academic semesters and one summer.

* Students with substantial academic and/or practice experience—including a health-related professional degree, a professional Master’s degree, a PhD, or five years of public health-related practice—may apply to the accelerated MPH program. This program will be completed in a 12-month period. Applications to the accelerated program must be well justified, using the “**Accelerated Program Application Form**”, and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
* Students who are local area residents or who are Cornell Employees may pursue the MPH on a part time basis, taking two classes each semester. A limited number of students will be admitted to this program each year. Please denote your interest in part-time study using the “**Part Time Application Form**”.

**Your Application Package**

Applying to the MPH program is your opportunity to convince us why you are the right fit for the program. We are interested in students from a broad array of professional, academic, and geographic backgrounds. Please your application package to demonstrate to us that:

* You have the academic skills to be able to undertake and succeed in a demanding program
* You have an interest in and commitment to public health, specifically when considered from the One Health/Planetary Health approach
* You are an active learner and that you will contribute significantly to an engaged learning environment, both with your class cohort and our community partners
* This program will help to set you up for professional success

You will apply to the MPH program via Cornell’s Graduate School [application portal](http://gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/applying/apply-now). Once you create an account, you will begin the eight-step application process.

* In step three, “Program selection,” choose “Public Health, M.P.H.” listed under “Biological and Biomedical Sciences – Comparative Biomedical Sciences,” or simply type “Public Health” in the top search bar.

Please be prepared to upload the materials listed in the following table. Please use all hints and follow all directions to ensure your application is complete and represents you well.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **What** | **Notes** | **Format** | **How** |
| **University Transcripts** | Please include all relevant transcripts that will help us see that you are academically suited for this program | PDF | Upload on Page 4 of the online portal |
| **GRE or GMAT score** | Please submit the score, even if it is old. We may consider some applicants exempt from this requirement if all other parts of the application package are exemplary. | Insert details | Insert details on Page 5.  In addition, please contact [GRE](https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/scores/send/) or [GMAT](http://www.mba.com/us/the-gmat-exam/gmat-exam-scoring/your-score-report/send-your-scores.aspx) to send your score to the Graduate School (code 2098) |
| **\*\* TOEFL or IELTS score** | If your university education was not in English, you must submit these scores. | Insert details | Insert details on Page 5.  In addition, please contact [TOEFL](https://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/scores/send/) or [IELTS](http://idpielts.me/results/ielts-test-report-form-trf/) to send your score to the Graduate School (code 2098) |
| **Three Letters of Recommendation** | We require three letters from faculty, supervisors, or employers that highlight your interest in and commitment to public health, One Health, and Planetary Health.   * If applying for the accelerated program, have your recommenders speak to your ability to succeed in an intense 12-month program. * If you have an idea for your public health project/practicum, and a potential mentor, one submission could be a letter of concurrence/support from that mentor. | Insert details | Insert details on Page 6.  The online portal will request the letter from your recommender.  We suggest that you contact your recommender to explain your interest in the program so that they can better speak to your qualifications. |
| **Statement of Purpose** | The Statement of Purpose should include:   * A one-page Statement of Interest: Tell us why you are interested in public health. What have you experienced in your education, work, or life that is pushing you towards public health? * A one-page Statement of Intent: Describe why you want to pursue your MPH at Cornell, and how our curriculum will help you achieve your professional goals. You might include a project idea that interests you, showing how our faculty will help you excel in that area. | Two pages  PDF | Upload on Page 7 of the online portal under “Statement of Purpose Upload” |
| **\*\* Application to Accelerated or Part Time Program** | If you would like to be considered for the accelerated program, you must also complete and submit the “Accelerated Program Application Form”.  If you would like to be considered for the part time program, you must also complete and submit the “Part Time Application Form”. | PDF | Upload on Page 7 of the online portal under “Writing Sample or Optional Upload” |
| **Current resume or CV** | This will help us understand your background and experience and relevance for this program. Remember that it is vital to adapt your resume or CV to the audience. Make sure yours shows us “why you”. | PDF | Upload on Page 8 of the online portal |

**\*\* Not required for all applicants**