

# Public Health Careers

## Organized by Public Health Concentrations

**The Purpose of Public Health** Professionals in public health work to protect and improve the health and lives of individuals, families, communities, and populations. It is practiced at the local level, the state level, the national level, and certainly at the global level.

**The Goal of Public Health** The ultimate goal of public health is to achieve and sustain healthy populations and environments.

Faculty, staff, administrators, and students in **UNLV's nationally accredited School of Public Health** (<https://www.unlv.edu/publichealth>), through its departments, programs, and research units, are working to provide a diverse education, practical training experience, and numerous community involvement opportunities to prepare students to become leaders and professionals in the field of Public Health.

**Public Health Sub-specialties at UNLV** (pursuing the public health goal using a unique set of skills). The following three areas help students to increase their focus on entry-level career opportunities in public health.

- I. **Social and Behavioral Health:** Social health is the understanding and having the ability to form meaningful relationships with other people and interact in healthy, positive ways. Behavioral health is the scientific study of the emotions, behaviors and biology relating to a person's mental well-being, their ability to function in everyday life and their concept of self.

<b>Sample Careers Include</b>	Evaluation Specialist e.g. in Physical Activity and Wellness Intervention Researcher e.g. in Domestic Violence Program Developer e.g. in Substance Abuse
-------------------------------	--

- II. **Epidemiology and Biostatistics:** Epidemiology involves the study (scientific, systematic, and data-driven) of the distribution (frequency, pattern) and determinants (causes, risk factors) of health-related states and events (not just diseases) in specified populations (neighborhood, school, city, state, country, global). Biostatistics involves processing skills in statistical processes and methods applied to the collection, analysis, and interpretation of biological data and especially data relating to human biology, health, and medicine.

<b>Sample Careers Include</b>	Data Evaluation Specialist e.g. Biostatistician Disease Causation Specialist: e.g. Epidemiologist Vaccine Researchers: COVID-19 Research Specialist
-------------------------------	---

- III. **Environmental and Occupational Health:** Environmental health involves preventing or controlling disease, injury, and disability related to the interaction of humans and their environment. Occupational health is the promotion and maintenance of the highest degree of physical, mental and social well-being of workers in all occupations by preventing departures from health, controlling risks and the adaptation of work to people, and people to their jobs

<b>Sample Careers Include</b>	Environmental Health Specialist: Air and Water Quality Monitor Environmental Engineer: Public health facilities, structures and systems inspector Environmental Technician: Environmental and Occupational Health Investigator
-------------------------------	--

**Public Health Generalists:** For those students who do not select any of the above sub-specialties, the undergraduate program in Public Health at UNLV offers students degree preparation that could qualify the candidate to apply for numerous entry-level public health positions.

<b>Sample Careers Include</b>	Emergency Response Specialist Public Health Program Coordinator Community Health Educator
-------------------------------	---