

# Public Health

## THE JOINT DOCTORAL PROGRAM (JDP) IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

OFFICE: Stein Clinical Research Building, Room 349  
Mail Code 0607

UCSD—<http://epidemiology.ucsd.edu/>  
SDSU—<http://publichealth.sdsu.edu/phdmain.php>

The doctoral program in public health (epidemiology) was developed as a joint program in 1990 between the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine in the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), and the Graduate School of Public Health at San Diego State University (SDSU). Students in the program complete course work and conduct research at both institutions. Faculty from each campus serve on advisory and dissertation committees, providing students with extensive exposure to experts whose research interests represent the interdisciplinary nature of modern public health. Dr. Deborah Wingard (UCSD) and Dr. Richard Shaffer (SDSU) codirect the program.

Requirements for the joint doctoral degree include:

1. successful completion of required course work
2. passing written preliminary examinations in epidemiology and biostatistics
3. passing written and oral qualifying examinations
4. demonstrating proficiency in two computer-based statistical software packages
5. demonstrating proficiency in teaching
6. completion and successful formal defense of a dissertation

Typical areas of emphasis include infectious disease epidemiology, chronic disease epidemiology, cancer epidemiology, behavioral epidemiology, community-based trials, physical activity/exercise/nutrition and health. San Diego is ideally located in a large and ethnically diverse metropolitan center bordering Mexico and the Pacific Rim, enabling students to carry out population-based multicultural and multinational studies of health problems.

### Time Limits

The goal of this policy is to encourage Ph.D. completion in a timely manner.

**Pre-candidacy limit.** Maximum registered time to advance to Ph.D. candidacy: 4 years

**Support limit.** Maximum registered time doctoral student is eligible for support: 6 years

**Total time limit.** Maximum registered time to complete all Ph.D. requirements: 7 years

Degree and contact information may be found on our Web site <http://publichealth.sdsu.edu/phdmain.php>. Admission requirements and application material can be found at <http://publichealth.sdsu.edu/phdapplication.php>.

## THE JOINT DOCTORAL PROGRAM (JDP) IN GLOBAL HEALTH

OFFICE: Ash Building, Room 109  
Mail Code 0622

Since 2007, a Ph.D. in public health with a concentration in global health has been offered by multidisciplinary faculty in UCSD's School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Public Health at San Diego State University. Global health relates to health issues and concerns that transcend national borders, class, race, ethnicity, and culture, stresses the commonality of health issues, and calls for collective, partnership-based action to resolve these issues. Accordingly, emphasis is on preparing graduates with the fundamental knowledge, understanding, and specific skills necessary to become public health researchers and professional leaders in global health settings. Proximity to the U.S./Mexico border and expertise of many current faculty support and encourage a focus on infectious diseases (e.g., HIV, TB, STDs) and health of migrant populations, although students are expected to develop other areas of specialization within the global health concentration. These may be content areas, such as chronic/infectious disease surveillance and prevention, environmental health, health policy, and substance abuse, or methodological areas such as quantitative, qualitative, and spatial research methodologies that are applied to address health problems of global health significance. Dr. Steffanie Strathdee (UCSD) and Dr. Jenny Quintana (SDSU) direct the program.

Requirements for the joint doctoral degree include:

1. Successful completion of required course work
2. Passing written and oral qualifying examinations
3. Demonstrated proficiency in teaching
4. Demonstrated cultural competence appropriate to dissertation area
5. Completion and successful formal defense of a dissertation

## THE JOINT DOCTORAL PROGRAM (JDP) IN HEALTH BEHAVIOR

OFFICE: Moores UCSD Cancer Center, Room 3063  
Mail Code 0901

UCSD—<http://famprevmed.ucsd.edu/educational.html>

SDSU—<http://publichealth.sdsu.edu>

A Ph.D. in public health with a concentration in health behavior is offered by the joint faculties of the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine in the School of Medicine at UC San Diego and the Graduate School of Public Health at San Diego State University (SDSU). Students in the program complete course work and conduct research at both institutions. Faculty from each campus serve on advisory and dissertation committees, providing students with extensive exposure to experts whose research interests represent the interdisciplinary nature of modern public health. Dr. John P. Pierce (UCSD) and Dr. Joni Mayer (SDSU) codirect the program.

Emphasis is on producing graduates with a mastery of the central concepts and analytic processes of health behavior. Graduates of the program are expected to establish advanced skills in applied behavioral analysis for population application; to establish expertise in advanced qualitative and quantitative research methods; to establish advanced skills in the application of interventions and research methods to health behavior in disenfranchised populations; and to establish skills necessary to understand and change health policy. Graduates of the program are competitive for a variety of research, teaching, and community service positions in areas such as academic institutions, local and state health departments, federal and international agencies, and both private and public-sponsored research institutions.

Areas of specialization currently include physical activity, tobacco control, skin-cancer prevention, nutrition and obesity, and HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis prevention and control. An additional emphasis will be placed on methodologies, such as measurement and related research issues; and ecological approaches to understanding health behavior. San Diego is ideally located in a large and ethnically diverse metropolitan center bordering Mexico and the Pacific Rim, enabling students to carry out community-based multicultural and multinational studies of health problems.

### Time Limits

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**Pre-candidacy limit.** Maximum registered time to advance to Ph.D. candidacy: 4 years

**Support limit.** Maximum registered time doctoral student is eligible for support: 6 years

**Total time limit.** Maximum registered time to complete all Ph.D. requirements: 7 years

Information regarding admission is found in the current edition of the *Bulletin of the Graduate Division of San Diego State University*. To receive an application for admission, contact SDSU/UCSD Joint Doctoral Program in Public Health, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego 92182-4162, (619) 594-2743.

For more information, please contact UCSD Graduate Coordinator, 3855 Health Sciences Drive, Room 3063, La Jolla, CA 92093-0901, (858) 822-2382.