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SPH CAMPAIGN *for* students

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON



The time to invest in public health education is now

Recent events — from the COVID-19 pandemic to the movement for racial equality to climate-fueled natural disasters — have underscored the urgent need for diverse, ethical, creative leaders who can work collaboratively to develop solutions for our greatest health threats, now and in the future. At the UW School of Public Health, we are forging a world where everyone can live a healthy, safe and prosperous life. Key to achieving that impact is having a public health workforce that reflects the communities we serve.



Help us EMPOWER

**the Next Generation of
Public Health Professionals**

We need your philanthropic support to attract and support talented, high-achieving students who embody the diversity of the communities we serve. Currently, we lose top applicants, particularly first-generation students and students from underrepresented backgrounds, to peer institutions due to a lack of sufficient funding. We are also at risk of losing these students once they matriculate, due to the high cost of living in the Puget Sound area. Public health professionals are in high demand, and our students serve communities better when they come from across the socioeconomic spectrum.

A vital part of fostering healthy, sustainable communities is a well-trained, equity-driven public health workforce that consists of individuals who are:

- Innovators who respond to evolving health emergencies;
- Leaders who protect population health by mobilizing communities, safeguarding families and workers, and fostering strong partnerships;
- Researchers who advance the discovery of life-saving vaccines, uncover new methods of analysis, and devise programs that improve the quality of life for everyone;
- Changemakers who craft public health policies based on evidence and the principles of social justice and inclusion.

We seek your philanthropic partnership to support the people, programs and places of the UW School of Public Health. Your generosity will fund scholarships and fellowships, modernize learning spaces, grow student success programs and shape the lives of future public health leaders.



“A big part of what drew me to the School of Public Health was my program’s commitment to anti-racism. Systemic racism in this country exacerbates every public health issue, and no other school or program I saw even acknowledged the connection between the two. This commitment has helped me hold my school and myself accountable as I begin my career in public health.”

MARTELL HESKETH, MPH’ 20

Program Evaluator at the Urban Indian Health Institute; Graduate of the Community-Oriented Public Health Practice Program; Recipient of the Rattlinggourd Scholarship and the Health Services Excellence, Equity and Distinction Award



We are WHAT WE DO

The UW School of Public Health

The north star for all of our work in the UW School of Public Health is to positively impact the health and well-being of people locally and around the globe. We do this through offering our students an interdisciplinary approach to education, real-world learning opportunities, financial assistance and state-of-the art facilities. We believe public health education must be constantly evolving in order to keep pace with emerging health challenges and that our student body must reflect the diverse communities they will serve. Our school is consistently ranked as one of the top public health schools in the world for its research and training programs.

Students are attracted to the Pacific Northwest because of our innovative biotech companies, global health nonprofits, local health departments, grassroots community health organizations and pioneering research institutions. We collaborate with a variety of partners — from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to Casa Latina to Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and more — to offer unique educational experiences. Our students work closely with faculty from more than 50 centers and institutes to study and address complex public health problems, such as infectious and chronic diseases, environmental hazards, health disparities and food insecurity, among many others.

With five academic departments and five interdisciplinary programs, SPH students choose from among 45 different degree programs of graduate and undergraduate areas of study. Across each degree, program and certificate offered, our approach to education is grounded in service, research and experiential learning. SPH graduates (10,000 and counting) go on to transform communities, lead public health organizations and make groundbreaking health discoveries.

OUR
IMPACT

“I’m the first one in my family to enter university and while SPH has an amazing program in global health, I wasn’t sure I could commit because of the financial burden. How was I going to pay quarter to quarter? When I found out I’d been awarded a fellowship, I was blown away. It lifted a brick house off my shoulders.”

SUMAYA MOHAMED, BA & BS

Current Master of Public Health Student Studying Global Health; Current PhD Student Studying Sociocultural Anthropology; Recipient of the Endowed Fellowship for Global Health Excellence, Equity and Impact

OUR CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

Our initiatives reflect SPH's commitment to cultivating future leaders who will advance the health and well-being of communities across the globe. We are raising funds for the following three critical areas:



1. TUITION SUPPORT

We aim to increase the financial resources available for our students to attract and retain the most diverse student body, focused on equity-driven solutions. Tuition costs can range between \$33,000 and \$39,000 per year, depending on the degree program. Living expenses in the Seattle area can cost an additional \$20,000-\$30,000 per year, at a minimum. Scholarships and fellowships can mean the difference between a student choosing to attend UW SPH, accepting a more compelling offer at another university, or being unable to obtain a degree at all. In addition to helping with their educational expenses, this type of support allows students to focus on their studies, rather than juggle academics with multiple jobs in order to make ends meet. We believe that no one should be priced out of an education or the opportunity to make an impact through a career in public health.

2. PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

SPH offers students a curriculum that is rich in experiential learning opportunities and public health skill development. With your generosity, we will expand or establish the following programs.

SPH Student Mentoring Program:

This program matches graduate students looking to build mentorship skills with undergraduate mentees seeking academic, experiential and career advice beyond what academic advising offers. Mentoring facilitates the development of authentic relationships that can last beyond a student's time in SPH. Additionally, this program centers culturally relevant mentorship by pairing mentees with mentors who share similar interests and identities (including race and ethnicity). Many underrepresented students actively seek this kind of mentorship across higher education, and this program creates a foundation for these connections to grow. Your support will fund mentor stipends, which allows students from low socioeconomic and diverse backgrounds to participate as mentors and develop their own leadership skills. This is particularly important because those graduate students who can least afford to volunteer as mentors are often the individuals that our undergraduates admire most.

Capstone and Practicum Projects:

The opportunity to make a real-world impact and to learn from practitioners serving populations with diverse health needs and perspectives is an invaluable part of SPH's educational approach. However, some of the best practice sites cannot afford to pay students for their practicum work. Many students need to earn money to support themselves, making it a challenge to fulfill this degree requirement successfully. We seek to strengthen our experiential learning programs by investing in infrastructure through paying graduate stipends, expanding essential staffing and providing funds for related student needs. With your generous support, we can create a more equitable landscape for both our students and our partner organizations.

SPH Student Emergency Fund:

Sometimes students face unexpected temporary hardships, such as a sudden illness, an accident or the loss of a job that make it difficult for them to cover essential expenses. For students who come from low socioeconomic backgrounds and do not have a financial safety net, funding for an unexpected financial hardship can mean the difference between completing their degree or having to drop out. Emergency student funds fill this gap, by providing resources to cover one-time expenses such as computer replacement, car repair, emergency travel or household bills.

3. NEW LEARNING SPACES

We have a vision of creating student spaces that reflect the way that students learn best, which includes a student-centered approach to education focused on interdisciplinary collaboration. In August 2020, the University of Washington broke ground on the new Health Sciences Education Building, which will serve as a hub for students in the School of Public Health and the five other health sciences schools. The building features classrooms and other spaces that are designed to support active learning. Traditional classrooms with auditorium-style lecture halls are not conducive for delivering a 21st century education. Modern, adaptive facilities are essential for sufficiently preparing students to work as public health professionals. They also give SPH a competitive edge in recruiting and retaining the best students, faculty and researchers. While the state of Washington has invested \$70 million in this project, our goal is to raise an additional \$30 million in private gifts to complete construction of the building — the educational home for tomorrow's public health leaders. We welcome support in any dollar amount. Special naming opportunities are available for our most generous donors.

Join Us – A Call to Action

While the pandemic and other recent cataclysmic events have changed our lives, what defines us is how we respond to them, to create a better future that is healthier and more equitable. Now is the time for action. Now is the time to invest in the people, programs and places of the UW School of Public Health. By supporting SPH, you are ensuring our communities have diverse public health professionals with the expertise, knowledge and passion to undertake society's greatest challenges and ensure health for all.

Every dollar counts. Every donor counts. Together we can shape a better future for public health and the world.

To support students in the School of Public Health, please contact Megan Ingram, Assistant Dean for Advancement at mkingram@uw.edu (206) 616-7197 or donate online at <https://sph.washington.edu/giving>

OUR
IMPACT

“Public health is all about collaboration — stopping infectious diseases like COVID-19 or improving the way we screen for and treat diseases like cancer requires people from different backgrounds with different skill sets. It’s been so valuable to participate in research projects with my professors and students from other disciplines.”

ANTONIO OLIVAS-MARTINEZ, MD

Current PhD student in Biostatistics; Recipient of the Pat Wahl Fellowship





W SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

CELEBRATING
50
YEARS