

# **4 + 1 University of Houston Degree Bachelor in Health – Public Health Specialization and University of Texas School of Public Health Master’s in Public Health**

## **Acknowledgements: Successful Program Completion**

Admission to the 4 + 1 program entitles you to register for the required coursework for the appropriate phase of your program. You are required to meet all requirements necessary to pass each of the courses on the appropriate degree plan. However, becoming a professional requires more than successfully passing your coursework.

Required benchmarks include keeping an average GPA of 3.5; exhibiting acceptable professional attributes required of a health professional; and reviewing your degree plan with your advisor every semester. These and any other benchmarks are listed on your degree plan. As you successfully complete each phase of your program, including satisfying all required benchmarks, you will be considered for advancement to the next phase. Student progress is monitored through the entire program to assure that students who are advanced in the program have demonstrated the prerequisite skills necessary to be successful at the next level. Students who are not progressing in academic or other professional requirements will consult with the 4 + 1 team to identify the necessary plan of action.

Combining the traditional academic background of a bachelor degree in health with emphasis on public health at The University of University of Houston main campus (UH) with a master’s level professional degree at The University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston (UTSPH), students will earn a traditional four-year undergraduate and have the opportunity to continue for one additional year earning a Master of Public Health (MPH).

Public Health is the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organized community efforts. The overarching goal is to improve the health of the individual and population at large. 4+1 graduates will be prepared to enter many public health careers, such as: health educator, safety and health inspector, environmental health expert, risk assessor, and policy analyst just to name a few. MPH graduates work in both the public and private sectors and some continue onto doctoral level programs in public health or other professional areas, such as medicine, dentistry or pharmacy.

Through a program design allowing students to complete a defined program of graduates-level coursework during the last year of undergraduate studies, students in the 4+1 Program will be able to earn a Bachelor’s degree with emphasis on Public Health and earn a Master’s in Public Health within five total years, rather than the six years it would take separately.