Public Health



The WashU Campaign





What if we could build a world in which optimal health and well-being were within reach for everyone?

At WashU, we are bringing this vision to life through our new School of Public Health. With your support, this groundbreaking school will emerge as a world leader in public health research, education, and practice. Our focus: to develop and promote solutions that elevate the health of entire populations — locally, nationally, and globally.

Public health aims to improve the health of humankind through prevention, community-level education, and policy initiatives, among other strategies. WashU's new school will transform the field through radically new ways of working and thinking — interdisciplinary approaches to addressing issues in public health, reimagining public health infrastructure, rebuilding trust in public health, and more. With your partnership, we will make it a healthier, more equitable world.

Poised for rapid success

Positioned within a constellation of existing institutional strengths, we are poised — more than any other school of public health — to quickly advance health locally and well beyond. The university's highly regarded eight other schools, including field leaders WashU Medicine and the Brown School, form a uniquely strong footing and offer myriad opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborations, several of which already are underway. Specific areas of distinction include:

- Top public health graduate programs, already preparing future leaders.
- World-leading expertise in dissemination and implementation science to quickly translate new solutions into practice.
- Access and dedication to both rural and urban communities, to serve and study a variety of populations.
- Partnership with WashU Medicine to move scientific discovery into the clinic.
- Pioneering health communications expertise to help address misinformation and distrust in science.
- Broad strength in complementary fields of economics and the business of health care, sociology, political science, psychological and brain sciences, social work, and the arts.
- Data science mastery to nimbly gather, assess, and apply new knowledge.

Strategic Roadmap

2024: Launch undergraduate minor in public health in Arts & Sciences.

2024 onward: Launch and expand doctoral programs in public health sciences, dissemination and implementation science, and global health.

2025 onward: Recruit field-leading tenured and tenure-track faculty to teach, practice, and conduct research. Establish internal faculty joint appointments.

2025-26: Launch undergraduate public health major in Arts & Sciences. (Anticipated) Launch an accredited school.

By 2030: Become a top-10 school of public health, and top-five by 2035.



With you, we will foster a healthier future.



Four core strategies will advance our success. First and most broadly, we will embrace unorthodox thinking and innovation in everything we do. Second, we will conduct high-quality research to generate practical solutions. Third, we will leverage new technologies and remain data-driven. And lastly, we will build an intentionally collaborative culture, catalyzing success through partnerships across WashU and with other academic institutions, industry, and the private sector.

We aim to achieve equitable, measurable advances in the health of real-world communities — in St. Louis and around the globe. With you, here's what we can do:

- Lessen hunger and treat nutrition-related health conditions.
- Promote maternal health and effective early-childhood development.
- Prevent premature death from chronic disease.
- Address health misinformation and build health knowledge within communities.

Enhance global health, focusing on care access and protecting vulnerable populations.

The power of your partnership

Your endowed or spendable investment enables us to attract and retain luminary faculty, train the next generation of public health practitioners, launch innovative research, and forge new avenues of practice and partnership. With you, we will create a brighter future, where health and well-being are within reach for everyone.



"Now is the time for public health leadership. And leadership is the business of a great university like WashU."

Sandro Galea, MD, DrPH

Margaret C. Ryan Dean of the School of Public Health Eugene S. and Constance Kahn Distinguished Professor of Public Health Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives To learn more, please contact:

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