

## **MPH Graduate Program Podcast Script**

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Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Master of Public Health program. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the unique qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Master of Public Health, also known as an MPH, will prepare students to become diverse public health professionals in practical settings through lecture and lab courses. The program is a condensed, 48-credit hour, five-semester program, that can be completed in 20 months as a full-time student or 3-5 years as a part-time student. We offer two program delivery options including a traditional face-to-face with classes offered at 12pm and 3pm and a weekend hybrid option. The weekend hybrid option will require a student to travel to GVSU once per semester for classes held face-to-face all day on Saturday 8am – 5pm, with the remainder of the coursework completed fully online.

The MPH degree at GVSU also offers two distinct emphasis areas for a candidate to select from: Epidemiology or Health Promotion. The program's 48 credit hours for each emphasis will cover public health foundational knowledge and a general overview of the discipline, while 21 credit hours will be dedicated to an emphasis area. Additional credit hours will go towards a practicum field work experience and an individual project. For a complete listing of all courses, please visit [gvsu.edu/grad/mph](http://gvsu.edu/grad/mph).

Growth and employability for public health is promising. There is an expected 22% growth rate between now and 2022 nationally and 12% growth rate in Michigan. Public Health professionals work in many diverse areas of health care. There are over 1,000 job titles under the MPH degree, including employment in hospitals, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, private businesses, public policy and advocacy, environmental health and research to name a few.

You may also consider public health at the undergraduate level, by enrolling in one of the two student initiated, combined degree options housed in either within Allied Health Sciences or Exercise Science, which each consists of 18 total credits focused on public health embedded within the undergraduate degree. This format allows you to get an inside look into the graduate degree by taking graduate credits while completing any undergraduate requirements. It is the perfect segway into an MPH degree at GVSU in a quicker and less expensive option.

Grand Valley's admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language, you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

The Master of Public Health program requires a 3.0 or higher GPA, two letters of recommendation, a resume, and a two-part written essay. This program also reserves the right to request an interview or GRE score from potential candidates. More program details as well as the online application can be found on the Master of Public Health website, [gvsu.edu/grad/mph](http://gvsu.edu/grad/mph).

The great news about GVSU's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at [gvsu.edu/financialaid](http://gvsu.edu/financialaid) or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at [gradschool@gvsu.edu](mailto:gradschool@gvsu.edu).

The Master of Public Health program at GVSU is unique for a number of reasons. GVSU's Public Health program is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Students have the opportunity to choose their emphasis area of Epidemiology or Health Promotion, class sizes are small, traditional and hybrid options for delivery of the curriculum, and community-based service learning experiences are embedded throughout every course in the program. This program is conveniently located in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, on the Medical Mile, on Grand Valley's Health Campus.

This is just a snapshot of the Master of Public Health graduate program at Grand Valley State University. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Ranelle Brew, at [brewr@gvsu.edu](mailto:brewr@gvsu.edu) or to The Graduate School at [gradschool@gvsu.edu](mailto:gradschool@gvsu.edu)

Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast and that you will consider applying.