Reductions in morbidity and mortality during the 20th century resulted in large part from effective population-level health promotion and disease prevention programs. In the 21st century, these activities will continue to be central to improving population health and reducing health disparities.

The Population Health Sciences (PHS) program at UTMB prepares students to conduct, communicate, and apply research aimed at achieving these goals. Students of the program are trained to:

- Develop and carry out independent, collaborative interdisciplinary research relevant to disease prevention, health disparities, health promotion, and restoration in human populations
- Develop and master high-level quantitative skills in data collection and analysis

The PhD in Population Health Sciences is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

The PHS Graduate Program includes faculty members from various clinical and scientific fields, providing students access to different facilities across campus. Faculty members also have access to a wide range of population health data sets, including:

- The National Health & Human Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES)
- The Hispanic Epidemiologic Survey of the Elderly (H-EPESE)
- The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health)
- Cancer data from the SEER Program
- Health insurance claims data

Please refer to the General Information Catalog section for Graduate Requirements for Admission available at https://www.utmb.edu/enrollmentservices/catalog.asp
MISSION

UTMB Health Mission Statement: UTMB’s mission is to improve health for the people of Texas and around the world by offering innovative education and training, pursuing cutting edge research and providing the highest quality patient care.

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Mission Statement: The mission promotes the advancement of human understanding and knowledge in health-related disciplines through scholarly teaching and research in the biomedical sciences. Foremost, the Graduate School embraces excellence in all of its academic pursuits and activities. Academic curricula and programs are available that emphasize developing individual leadership, communication, motivation, and scholarship to meet the challenges of today’s society.

PROGRAM FACTS

• The PHS curriculum provides an ecological perspective on population health, which explores the interplay of individual biological and behavioral factors, as well as their environmental aspects, in determining population health.

• Degree Requirements include:
  – Two years of coursework covering subjects such as:
    • Biostatistics
    • Epidemiology
    • Prevention and Public Health
    • Research Design and Methods
    • Curricular Track/Elective Courses
    • Ethics of Science
  – Written and oral qualifying examinations
  – Completion of original research project resulting in a dissertation
  – An oral presentation and defense of the dissertation project

Benefits:

Eligible students can qualify for a package that includes a graduate assistant salary of $31,000 in addition to comprehensive health insurance coverage. Other benefits include paid tuition and fees, free membership to the campus fitness center, and several others.

WHY UTMB?

One of the lowest cost programs in Texas

▷ Small class sizes
▷ Low faculty-to-student ratio (1:1)
▷ Face-to-face courses (No online classes)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

• To be considered for admission to the PhD in Population Health Sciences program in UTMB’s Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, applicants must provide the following: A bachelor’s degree, graduate degree, or first professional degree (e.g., MD, DDS, JD) from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States, or proof of equivalent degree and training from an acceptable foreign institution of higher education.

• Each graduate program has specific requirements, but common factors considered by the admissions committee include, but are not limited to, the following:
  – Undergraduate overall and upper division GPA (above 3.0 preferred)
  – Scores on the GRE
  – A minimum score on the TOEFL of 550 (paper), 213 (computer-based), or 80 (internet-based) or a minimum score of 6.5 on the IELTS for applicants whose native language is not English
  – Research or other relevant experience
  – Letters of reference
  – Background for and commitment to a career of scholarly endeavor in the field of study

• Final recommendations by the graduate program faculty are based on competitive evaluation of the qualifications of the applicant plus consideration of the availability of space and resources.

For more information or to apply, please visit: https://gsbs.utmb.edu
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
(409) 772-2665 | gsbsrecr@utmb.edu
301 University Blvd., Galveston, TX 77555-1050

Tuition and Fees
https://www.utmb.edu/enrollmentservices/future-students/tuition-and-fees

Scholarships Available
https://www.utmb.edu/enrollmentservices/resources/scholarships

ADA information
Contact: Lela Lockett-Ware, OTR Student ADA Coordinator
lWelocket@utmb.edu (409) 747-4818

Accreditation: UTMB Health at Galveston is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and professional degrees

https://pmch.utmb.edu/education/population-health-sciences-phd