

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY School of Public Health

School of Public Health - At A Glance Spring 2024



VISION

Stronger Communities, Healthy People—Our Tradition

MISSION

Texas A&M School of Public Health is committed to transforming public health through interdisciplinary inquiry, innovative solutions, and development of leaders through the Aggie tradition of service to engage diverse communities worldwide.

VALUES

- A Accountability: Meaningful impact
- **G** Global and diverse: Our research crosses borders
- **G** Generosity: Through selfless service
- I Integrity: In everything we do
- E Excellence: In teaching, research, service, and practice
- **S** Social Justice
- **P** Professionalism: Leaders paving the way
- H Honor: Respect for all

FOUNDED – 1998 and Celebrating our 25th Anniversary! **LEADERSHIP** – Dean Shawn G. Gibbs, PhD, MBA, CIH **FACULTY** – 91

DEPARTMENTS

- Health Policy & Management
- Environmental & Occupational Health
- Epidemiology & Biostatistics
- Health Behavior

ACADEMICS

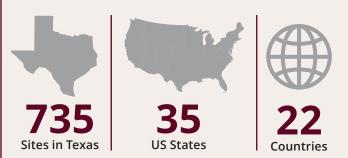
Enrollment Totals: 2,842 majors and 451 minors *Undergraduate Students GPA 3.5*

- Bachelor of Science 2,451
 - Public Health
 - Allied Health
 - Community Health
- Master of Public Health 231
 - Biostatistics
 - Epidemiology
 - Environmental Health
 - Health Policy and Management
 - Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences
 - Occupational Health and Safety

- Master of Health Administration 71
- Master of Science in Health Education 4
- DrPH 41
 - Epidemiology
 - Environmental Health
 - Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences
- Doctor of Philosophy 44
 - Health Services Research
 - Health Education
- Minors 451
 - Public Health
 - Occupational Health & Safety
 - Health

STUDENT EXCELLENCE

- Ranked 38 of 209 Schools and Programs of Public Health in U.S. News & World Report 2023.
- Master of Health Administration (MHA) program improved ranking to 27th.
- 98% job placement of Environmental and Occupational Health graduates with starting salaries averaging \$76,000.
- EpiAssist student volunteers provided in excess of 4,000 hours assisting Texas' state, regional and local health departments with outbreak investigations, disasters and emergencies, community health assessments and other projects.
- Public health students are actively involved in two learning communities:
 - Broad Street Society Honors Learning Community
 - Public Health First-Generation Scholars



We provide many learning opportunities for students. These include applied practicum experience, education abroad, and community partner volunteer opportunities. Practicum experiences occur across the state, nation, and world.



RESEARCH CENTERS

- Center for Community Health and Aging
- Center for Health and Nature
- Center for Health Equity and Evaluation Research
- Ergonomics Center
- Southwest Rural Health Research Center
- USA Center for Rural Public Health Preparedness

RESEARCH

- New awards from 9/1/22 to 8/31/23 were \$16.6 million.
- Researchers published more than 250 peer-reviewed papers in 2022 and have made impacts through public health interventions and/or research in all 254 counties in Texas.
- Research expenditures since the school's founding exceed \$130 million, with funding from federal, state, local, nonprofit, and private sources.
- Researchers are national leaders in rural health policy, community health and aging, healthcare access and equity, emergency preparedness and response, health economics, program evaluation, occupational and environmental health, and behavior health.
- Internal funding through Health Science Center Seedling Grants totaling \$2.8 million to test new methods and ideas for future external proposals.
- Southwest Rural Health Research Center recently completed and published <u>Rural Healthy People 2030</u>, a companion piece to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's <u>Healthy People 2030</u>. This is the third set of volumes in this decadal series for the center.

RESEARCH AWARDS

• **\$11.9 million:** Texas Health and Human Services Commission Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Renewal (10-year extension).

• **\$5.4 million:** Texas Health and Human Services Commission to evaluate the Texas 1115 Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program Waiver.

- **\$3.9 million:** Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-Southwest Rural Health Research Center.
- **\$2.8 million:** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to conduct a 'secret shopper' survey to understand the impact of network inadequacy on beneficiary access to Medicaid managed care plans.
- **\$1.8 million:** Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (HICAHS) to conduct Dairy Worker Fatigue Assessment and Effect on Health, Safety, and Performance.
- **\$1.5 million:** Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc. Safer Water Projects conducting Arsenic Surveillance of Drinking Water and Identifying Water Contaminants through Citizen Science.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

- Lei-Shih Chen, PhD, Genomics Education Award from the American Society of Human Genomics.
- Whitney Garney, PhD, Robert Blackburn Advocacy, Policy and Systems Efforts for Advancing Health Education and Promotion Award by the Foundation for the Advancement of Health Education.
- Shawn Gibbs, PhD, named to the Board for Global Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Credentialing. He received the 2022 Industrial Hygiene Impact Award from the same organization.
- Simon Haeder, PhD, David Kline Jones Distinguished Scholar Award from the American Political Science Association Health Politics and Policy Section.
- Marcia Ory, PhD, Florence L. Denmark Award for Contributions to Women and Aging by the Society for the Psychology of Women, Div. 35's Committee on Women and Aging.
- Virender Sharma, PhD, receives patent for developing a disinfection process using Ferrate that can be used for hospital surfaces and in water.





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