

ADVANCE

A NOVA | MASON PARTNERSHIP

A.S. Health Sciences: Public Health Major
/B.S. Community Health - Clinical Science
Concentration Pathway
2025-2026

A.S. Health Sciences: Public Health Major

ADVANCE Program Milestones

ADVANCE Milestone Requirements: All ADVANCE students must adhere to the following requirements. For Milestones #1-#3, failure to meet these milestones will prevent a student from matriculating to Mason and/or result in termination from ADVANCE. For Milestones #4-#7, failure to meet these milestones may delay matriculation to Mason.

1. Students must graduate with the NOVA degree aligned with their ADVANCE academic pathway within 4 years of being admitted into ADVANCE. Students are highly encouraged to be continuously enrolled at NOVA/Mason to support progress towards degree completion.
2. Students must maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA at NOVA and must have a minimum 2.5 GPA upon matriculation to Mason.
3. Students who wish to enroll at Mason for the fall semester must apply for NOVA spring graduation by March 1 or summer graduation by June 1. Students who wish to enroll at Mason for the spring semester must apply for NOVA fall graduation by October 1.
4. Students must begin developmental coursework no later than the first semester in ADVANCE at NOVA.
5. Students must take first college-level MTH course and ENG 111 in the semester immediately following the completion of any MDE or EDE courses (excluding summer).
6. In the first 30 credits, students must complete ENG 111 and ENG 112 with a C or better.
7. Students must complete a college level math course with a C or better no later than one semester before NOVA graduation. Refer to your pathway to select the appropriate MTH course(s).

ADVANCE Program-Specific Information:

Students interested in Pre-Health Professions (Pre-Med, Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Podiatry, Pre-Optometry, Pre-Veterinary, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Physician Assistant, Pre-Occupational Therapy, and Pre-Physical Therapy) should meet with a Mason Advisor regarding the appropriate prerequisite courses for their field of choice. For more information, please visit: <https://prehealth.gmu.edu/>

	NOVA DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Courses	MASON TRANSFER EQUIVALENT	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
1	SDV Course	1	SDV 100 College Success Skills OR SDV 101 Orientation to Healthcare	UNIV XXX	General Elective
2	ENG 111	3	ENG 111 College Composition I ¹	ENGH XXX	General Elective
3	BIO 101	4	BIO 101 General Biology I	BIOL 103/105	Major
4	MTH 154 or MTH 161 or higher	3	MTH 154 Quantitative Reasoning ²	MATH 106	Quantitative
5	PSY 200	3	PSY 200 Principles of Psychology	PSYC 100	Soc/Behav
6	HLT 143 (or HLT 241)	3	HLT 241 Global Health Perspectives	GCH 205	Major
7	BIO 141	4	BIO 141 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	BIOL 124	Major
8	ENG 112	3	ENG 112 College Composition II ¹	ENGH 101	Written Comm
9	CST Course	3	CST 100 Principles of Public Speaking OR CST 110 Introduction to Human Communication	COMM 100 COMM 101	Oral Comm
10	HLT 228	3	HLT 228 Introduction to Public Health ³	GCH 228T	Major
11	Humanities/Fine Arts #1	3	ART 100 Art Appreciation OR ART 101 History of Art: Prehistoric to Gothic OR ART 102 History of Art: Renaissance to Modern OR CST 130 Introduction to Theatre OR CST 151 Film Appreciation I OR MUS 121 Music in Society	ARTH 101 ARTH 200 ARTH 201 THR 101 ENGH L372 MUSI 101	Arts
12	Social/Behavioral Sciences	3	SOC 200 Introduction to Sociology	SOCI 101	General Elective
13	BIO 142	4	BIO 142 Human Anatomy and Physiology II	BIOL 125	Major
14	Transfer Elective #1	4	CHM 111 General Chemistry I	CHEM 211-213	Major & Nat Science

15	MTH 245 or higher	3	MTH 245 Statistics I ²	STAT 250	General Elective
16	HIS Elective	3	HIS 101 Western Civilizations Pre-1600 CE OR HIS 102 Western Civilizations Post-1600 CE OR HIS 112 World Civilizations Post-1500 CE (<i>recommended</i>)	HIST 101T HIST 102T HIST 125	Global History
17	Humanities/Fine Arts #2	3	ENG 225 Reading Literature: Culture and Ideas OR ENG 245 British Literature OR ENG 246 American Literature OR ENG 255 World Literature OR ENG 258 African American Literature OR ENG 275 Women in Literature OR Any 200-Level ENG Literature course ⁴	ENGH 202 or FRLN L330 (ENG 255 only)	Literature
18	HLT 110 or Transfer Elective	4	CHM 112 General Chemistry II	CHEM 212-214	Major & Nat Science
19	Transfer Elective #2	4	BIO 206 Cell Biology	BIOL 213	Major
20	HLT 230	3	HLT 230 Principles of Nutrition	NUTR 295	General Elective

A. S. HEALTH SCIENCE (PUBLIC HEALTH) DEGREE TOTAL

64

For academic policies and procedures, please see NOVA catalog - <http://www.nvcc.edu/catalog/index.html>

B.S. Community Health - Clinical Science Concentration

	MASON DEGREE REQUIREMENT	Credits	Course	MASON CORE/DEGREE EQUIVALENT
21	Concentration Requirement	4	Approved Clinical Science Concentration course ⁵	Major
22	Concentration Requirement/General Elective	4	Approved Clinical Science Concentration course ⁵ OR General Elective (See: Advisor)	Major or General Elective
23	Major Core	3	GCH 310 Health Behavior Theories	Major
24	Major Core	3	GCH 332 Health and Disease	Major
25	Major Core	3	GCH 335 Applied Health Statistics	Major
26	Concentration Requirement/General Elective	4	Approved Clinical Science Concentration course ⁵ OR General Elective (See: Advisor)	Major or General Elective
27	Concentration Requirement/General Elective	4	Approved Clinical Science Concentration course ⁵ OR General Elective (See: Advisor)	Major or General Elective
28	Major Core	3	GCH 380 Public Health Research Methods	Major
29	Major Core	3	GCH 350 Health Promotion and Education	Major
30	Major Core	3	GCH 360 Health and Environment	Major
31	Concentration Requirement/General Elective	4	Approved Clinical Science Concentration course ⁵ OR General Elective (See: Advisor)	Major or General Elective
32	Major Core	3	GCH 411 Health Program Planning and Evaluation	Writing Intensive
33	Major Core	3	GCH 412 Fundamentals of Epidemiology	Major
34	Major Core	3	GCH 376 Health Ethics, Leadership, and Advocacy	Major
35	Gen Ed: Written Communication (Upper-level)	3	ENGH 302 Advanced Composition	Written Comm
36	Major Core	3	GCH 445 Social Determinants of Health	Major
37	Gen Ed: Apex/Major Core	3	GCH 465 Community Health Capstone	Apex

B.S. COMMUNITY HEALTH DEGREE TOTAL

120

Denotes a course that must be taken at George Mason University while attending NOVA. Failure to complete your co-enrollment course(s) while attending NOVA can significantly affect your timeline for Mason graduation. Please see your ADVANCE Coach for more information and to enroll.

Important Academic Information:

¹Students who complete ENG 111 after Spring 2024 will earn ENGH elective for ENG 111 and ENGH 101 for ENG 112.

²Students interested in Pre-Health Professions are strongly encouraged to take MTH 167 Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry and MTH 263 Calculus I for the NOVA Math sequence. Please consult with the Mason Advisor for more information.

³HLT 228 will transfer to Mason as GCH 228T, which can be substituted to fulfill the GCH 300 requirement for VCCS transfer students in the Community Health, BS. See your Mason advisor after matriculating to Mason to process this substitution.

⁴200-level ENG literature classes include: ENG 225, ENG 230, ENG 236, ENG 237, ENG 245, ENG 246, ENG 250, ENG 255, ENG 256, ENG 257, ENG 258, ENG 271, ENG 275, and ENG 279.

⁵For approved Clinical Science Concentration courses, please visit: <https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/public-health/global-community-health/community-health-bs/#requirementstext>.

General Education Waiver Policy and Guidance:

- Students who complete a VCCS transfer associate degree (AS, AA, or AFA) will receive a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower division) Mason Core general education categories, which can be found here: <https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>. To be eligible for the waiver, the students must provide the Mason Office of Admissions with a final, official transcript reflecting the degree conferral date. As a prerequisite for ENGH 302, ENGH 101 is not waived. Students must complete ENGH 100 or ENGH 101, or an equivalent, with a C or higher.
- When a course fulfills a Mason Core requirement **and** a major or college requirement (e.g. Major & Quant), students must complete the course listed on the pathway to fulfill the major/college requirement. Courses that fulfill only Mason Core Foundation and Exploration categories are recommendations. In most pathways, ADVANCE students must complete a Quantitative Reasoning course to matriculate through ADVANCE.
- ADVANCE students must complete the associate degree indicated on their pathway (see the ADVANCE Program Milestones listed above). Students who withdraw from ADVANCE and transfer without the associate degree or UCGS are required to complete each Mason Core general education category.

Additional General Notes & Resources:

- Students must earn a minimum grade of C in all major courses. A criminal background check and proof of vaccination status may be required of students prior to beginning an internship if required by the internship organization.
- For academic policies and procedures, please see Mason catalog - <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/>
- Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation.