Welcome to the PhD Program at the College of Public Health!

Navigating your PhD experience can be challenging at times. This guide walks you through the basic steps from your first semester to graduation. We hope you take time to experience the academic events and life offered at the College of Public Health and the University of South Florida.

Admission information can be found on our Graduate Admissions page.

Important Catalog Information

Due to the planned consolidation during the summer of 2020, of the University of South Florida, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, and the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee, into a single university with a fully aligned and integrated curriculum and a single set of academic policies and procedures, any undergraduate or graduate student who matriculates at one of the three USF institutions on or after May 18, 2020, will adhere to the curricula, policies, and procedures described in the 2020-21 USF undergraduate or graduate catalog, respectively.

PhD Guidelines

These PhD Guidelines present the USF Office of Graduate Studies policies. The College of Public Health may impose stricter guidelines, policies and procedures as determined by each concentration. It is the responsibility of the student to review and follow the specific guidelines with their concentration chairs, major professor and committee members.

Additional USF policies, not found in these guidelines, may be found at www.grad.usf.edu/policies.php or at www.grad.usf.edu/catalog.php.

Steps to Success

- Getting Started
- Learning about Registration and where to find course information
- Keeping your degree on track and in good standing:
  - Keep your degree status active (see continuous enrollment in Enrollment Requirements)
  - Know your degree time limitations
  - Maintain a 3.0 or better Grade Point Average (GPA) or you will be put on probation
- Advisors and Committees
- Qualifying Exam
- Proposal and Dissertation
- Learn about Student Organizations
- Use your COPH Competencies Database record to update your competencies each term—the competencies are due at graduation
- Meet with the Doctoral Training Office the term before you graduate and review your status
- Early during the semester you plan to graduate you should register for graduation
- Participate in the COPH graduation celebration, the USF Health graduation ceremony, and join our USF and COPH alumni communities

Getting Assistance

The Office of Doctoral Training is here to help. You can reach us at cophdoctoral@usf.edu. We are located at the College of Public Health in the Chiles Center.

For Admissions, please go to our Prospective Students page to request an appointment with an advisor, or contact preadmissions@usf.edu.
This version of the PhD Guidebook is the official version of the USF College of Public Health Guidebook for the PhD degree effective for the current catalog. This is a subset of and supplement to the USF Graduate Catalog. If there are conflicts between the two documents the USF Graduate Catalog prevails. The College of Public Health reserves the right to change its rules, courses, and requirements from time to time and to make all such changes applicable to all students, whether new or continuing, when in its sole judgment such changes are deemed necessary.

To view the complete USF Graduate Catalog, go to www.grad.usf.edu/catalog.php; to view overarching USF regulations and policies go to regulations policies.usf.edu

Please send feedback on the PhD Guidebook