



DYPU School of Public Health Development Plan (2024-27)

Genesis and Evolution of the School

The discipline of public health protects and improves the health of individuals and communities through various approaches such as the promotion of healthy behaviours, prevention and control of diseases, carrying out research in the field of health, and bringing policy changes through this research. Given the interdisciplinarity of the field, it brings together people from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to discover the origins of health problems and give solutions that are practical, feasible, and legitimate. The field of public health becomes relevant more in the post-pandemic world where the debates are centered around making the health systems resilient in case of future health emergencies on global as well as local levels. An improvement in the health of the individuals impacts the social as well as economic development of the countries leading to increased productivity, reduced absenteeism, and stimulating innovative approaches to health and healthcare.

With the globe facing unprecedented health challenges of a perilous nature, eventually, the need to create a public health workforce becomes extremely relevant. The leadership of the DY Patil deemed to be University, Navi Mumbai to translate this growing need for public health professionals envisioned the School of Public Health. With the drive and foresight to provide academically yet socially relevant training to public health professionals, the school came into being in the year 2021. The school aims to build a well-trained and skilled public health workforce capable of providing the required expertise in catering to equitable approaches to health and healthcare taking into consideration the variations within and across populations; locally as well as globally.

The overarching Vision & Mission of the School is to Promote and protect population health through Excellence in public health education; Multi and trans-disciplinary research; Active community engagement and Contribution to public policy

Current status of the school

The School currently offers two PG programmes [Master of Public Health (MPH) and Master of Public Policy (MPP)] and two UG programmes [Bachelor of Public Health (BPH) & Bachelor of Environment & Sustainability (BSc ES)] in addition to PhD in public health related areas

School Development plan for the next three years

During the initial two years of its existence the school primarily went through a phase of consolidation wherein the focus was on identifying the strength and enabling factors. Focus was on fine tuning the curriculum and strengthening collaborations. Consequently, a strong globally relevant curriculum has been put in place and reputed, competent faculty have been recruited. The school has also forged meaningful collaborations and is an active member of the Public Health Consortium with IIPHG, AIIMS J, Datta Meghe, and Parul University and the Cancer Consortium with University of Kentucky, MAHE & Tata Memorial Centre. Academic and research partnership with McGill University, Canada, has resulted in two ongoing research projects and an innovative scholar in residence initiative.

Following are the proposed expansion plans for the school in the coming three years

Year 2024-25: Expand

Objectives: Increase the number of electives & specialized tracks

Deliverables at the end of the year: Explore the possibility of certificate & graduate programs and increased number of Collaborations & Grant applications. The school is also initiating 6 Divisions within the school that will further the research and academic output. These are Division of Epidemiology; Division of Environmental sciences; Division of Policy & Governance; Division of Health Systems & Social Sciences; Division of Public Health Social Work; Division of Population Sciences

Year 2025 – 26 Enhance Reputation

Objectives: Further, consolidate the various programs & establish specialized tracks with reputed & trained faculty

Deliverables: The school will initiate three specialisations within MPH namely Sexual & Reproductive Health, Mental Health and Climate Change & Health. More collaborations & Grants will be explored. More than 80% career placements for the graduates in reputed institutions

Year 2026 - 27: Further Expansion

Objectives: Explore the possibility of accreditation & split site MPH

Deliverables: International Accreditation; 5% increased student enrolment; Offer interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs; Large multi-centric study grants; Sustained national & international collaborations