

Health Education & Behavior *Combination Degree Program*



UF | **College of Health
& Human Performance**
*Department of Health
Education and Behavior*
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Department of Health Education & Behavior

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- The Department of Health Education & Behavior, with a foundation in the social and biological sciences, focuses on health information and theory application.
- Students learn techniques to promote healthy lifestyle choices in individual and group settings, with special attention given to diversity and culturally appropriate health education methodologies.

Bridging the gap between scientific knowledge and public understanding of health to promote healthier living.

Health Education Careers

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- **Local, state or national public health agencies**
 - State or County Health Departments, CDC, NIH
- **Non-profit health organizations**
 - American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, Planned Parenthood
- **Private sector health promotion programs**
 - Smoking cessation policy, reducing job-related injuries, on-site gym, rehabilitation
- **Patient health care settings**
- **Graduate programs in health education or related fields**
 - Public health, epidemiology, health communication
- **Preparation for professional health programs**
 - PA, nursing, PT, OT, medicine, dental, health administration

HEB Combination Degree Program

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- The combination degree in Health Education and Behavior is designed for students seeking an advanced practitioner's degree in Health Education.
- The MS degree prepares health education specialists to work in local, state, and federal health agencies, voluntary health organizations, patient care settings, and private industries.

HEB Combination Degree Program Criteria

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1. Sophomore or Junior status
2. Maintain 3.2 UF GPA
3. Approval from undergraduate program (must be on-track and in good standing with major)
4. Schedule an appointment with Ms. Jenny Neelands (jennifer4@ufl.edu) to complete the BS/MS program application before the end of the first semester during the junior year (semester 5).

HEB Combination Degree Courses

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- Choose 4 to complete during junior and senior years:
- HSC 4133/5138 Human Sexuality Education
- HSC 4134/5135 Emotional Health & Counseling
- HSC 4143/5142 Drug Education
- HSC 4174/5925 Determinants of Obesity
- HSC 42232c/5618 Exercise Therapy, Physical Activity & Health
- HSC 4233/6235 Patient Health Education
- HSC 4574/5576 Nutrition Education for Special Populations
- HSC 4579/6575 Women's Health Issues
- HSC 4593/6595 HIV/AIDS Education
- HSC 4623/6629 Minority Health Issues
- HSC 4663/6646 Methods of Injury Prevention & Control
- HSC 4664/6665 Health Communication for Consumers
- HSC 4694/6695 Work-site Health Promotion
- HSC 4950/6935 Special Topics in Health Education

Courses must be completed with a B or higher in order to transfer to the HEB MS program.

Combination Degree Program Important Facts

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- Students are not penalized for withdrawing from the program.
- Students must apply to the MS program (admission to the MS program after graduation is not automatic).
- Graduate-level tuition is more expensive than undergraduate rates.
- Graduation from your undergraduate program is separate from the MS program.
- The BS/MS program expedites the MS program and saves students (financially) the cost of 4 undergrad courses.

NOTE:

- The following information pertains to the application process for applying to the HEB MS program.
- The steps outlined in the MS Program application process, detailed on slides #9-#13, are NOT required when applying for the HEB combination degree program.

HEB Master of Science Degree

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- ***Participation in the combination degree program does not automatically ensure admission to the master's program.***
- ***Students must formally submit all required application materials to the department.***
- ***Application for admission to the MS program occurs approximately 6 months before the start of the term in which the student is applying.***

University of Florida Graduate Admission

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Two UF units evaluate your application to the UF Graduate School:

1. The department you want to major in, which determines your eligibility for its graduate program.
2. UF Office of Admissions, which determines your eligibility for admission to the University of Florida.

HEB MS Program Application Materials

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- Completed University of Florida [online application](#)
- [MS Applicant Information Sheet](#)
- Cover letter / statement of intent describing your areas of professional interest and reasons for pursuing an MS in Health Education degree.
- Resume / Curriculum Vitae
- Three [letters of recommendation](#). At least 2 letters must be from full faculty members who can attest to your academic ability.
- Non-UF students – Submission of official transcripts for all previous college coursework to the Office of Admissions and HEB Department.
- Minimum 3.0 GPA for all upper-division undergraduate coursework
- Writing sample strongly encouraged for Thesis Option applicants
- GRE verbal, quantitative, and writing scores are required and will be considered as part of the entire application. Have scores sent to UF (institution code 5812).
- International Students - Required minimum score of 80 iBT or 550 PBT on the TOEFL

HEB MS Program Application Materials

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- All MS program application materials should be submitted to the Department by the published deadline (see Department website).
- Send application materials to:
Department of Health Education and Behavior
Graduate Program
Florida Gym, Room 6
PO Box 118210
Gainesville, FL 32611
- For more information about the application materials, please visit:
<http://hhp.ufl.edu/admissions/heb-masters/>

UF Graduate Program Application Process

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- **Items to complete for the UF Graduate School:**
 1. Complete Online Web Application
 2. \$30.00 application fee
 3. Official Transcripts
 4. Official copy of G.R.E. score

- **Please send or deliver these items to:**

Graduate Admissions
201 Criser Hall
P.O. Box 114000
Gainesville, Florida 32611-4000

Important Contact Information

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- **Combination degree program information:**
 - http://hhp.ufl.edu/about/academics/bs_ms-heb/
- **HEB Undergraduate Advisors:**
 - Ms. Erica Alexander: ericaalexander@ufl.edu
 - Ms. Megan LeCorgne: mlecorgne@ufl.edu
 - Advising Schedule: http://hhp.ufl.edu/current-students/academic-advising/advising_heb/

- **MS program information:**
 - <http://hhp.ufl.edu/about/academics/ms-heb/>
- **HEB Graduate Program Advisor:**
 - Ms. Jenny Neelands: jennifer4@ufl.edu
- **HEB Graduate Program Coordinator:**
 - Dr. Amy Mobley: amy.mobley@ufl.edu