AY 2027
Entrance Examination Guideline for the Application Guide for Professional Degree Program School of Public Health

令和９(2027)年度公共健康医学専攻 募集要項　入学試験案内

- Entrance Examination Guideline
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  （授業科目概要について）

東京大学大学院医学系研究科
Graduate School of Medicine
The University of Tokyo

AY 2027 Entrance Exam Guidelines
Professional Degree Program,
School of Public Health (Professional Graduate School)
Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Tokyo

The School of Public Health aims to produce highly-advanced professionals capable of performing leadership and practical roles in the field of public health in order to maintain, promote and restore health as well as to enhance the quality of life of a broad range of people including patients, local residents, and the community.

The School of Public Health accepts 30 students; approximately 20 students in the 2-year course and 10 students in the 1-year course (standard program duration of 1 year).

1. Outline

Japan is currently facing a number of public health challenges, such as declining fertility, population aging, the emergence & reemergence of infectious diseases, the threat of bioterrorism, suicide and work related death, widening health gap, and threatened sustainability of healthcare systems.

The School of Public Health delivers education with the aim of producing highly-advanced professionals equipped with techniques for quantitative analysis of population health, system thinking of social and healthcare systems, and a public health-oriented mindset with excellent capabilities for health policy making and healthcare management.

The curriculum consists of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Clinical Epidemiology, Health Economics, Health Communication, Mental Health, Health Sociology, Health Education and Behaviors, Biomedical Ethics, Health Policy, Healthcare Informatics, Forensic Medicine/ Medical Law, Medical Safety Management, Health Risk Management, Environmental Health, and Theory and Practice of Occupational Health. Students can obtain a (professional) master's degree in public health by taking 30 or more credits of both compulsory and elective subjects from this curriculum.

2. Practical experience requirements for the 1-year course

Prospective students must satisfy the Professional Degree Program eligibility criteria and possess the following practical experience at the time of application.

Eligibility criteria	Years of practical experience	Applicable practical experience
4-year university graduate	3 years or more	Practical healthcare experience at: healthcare-related administrative agencies; public health insurance agencies; healthcare facilities such as hospitals and clinics; long-term care facilities; pharmaceutical industry; healthcare industry; other healthcare organizations (NPOs/ NGOs)
6-year university graduate (medicine/dentistry/veterinary medicine) or master's course graduate	2 years or more (includes physician & other clinical training)	

Points to note:

(1) Applicants must submit their certificate of employment as proof of the term of their employment.

(2) Applicants who wish to maintain their employment at a government office, school, hospital, or private company during enrollment are required to submit a consent form (format optional)

from their employer when completing the admission procedures according to 7(4) in the “Application Guide”. The document should state that their manager consents to the fact that they will enter our school maintaining the employment.

(3) Examples of practical healthcare experience include: qualified physicians, dentists, veterinarians, pharmacists, or public health nurses employed by an administrative or healthcare organization for at least 32 hours/week, although other types of experience may also be admitted. To confirm whether your practical experience qualifies before submitting an application, please submit the following documents to the Graduate Student Affairs Section to arrive by Friday, June 5 2026: A) Curriculum Vitae (be sure to include your current contact details); B) Certificate of employment. Upon confirmation of the submitted documents, prospective applicants will be directly notified of the results in advance of the application period.

3. Entrance exam subjects

Exam subject	Content	Remarks
Foreign Language	Based on the TOEFL score report submitted with the application.	
Specialized Subject	①General Statistics	Basic Biostatistics (20 multiple choice questions)
	② Specialized fields (6 questions) The following two are compulsory: - Epidemiology - Preventive Medicine Choose 4 out of the following: - Medical statistics - Health education - Mental health - Medical ethics - medical law - Biomedical Informatics - Health policy	All essay questions.
	④Short essay	Write an essay on a public health issue and measures to deal with it based on your practical experience.

Details of the entrance exam schedule and venue will be provided in the 'Examinee Guidelines' posted with the Exam Card after submission of applications.

4. Guidance for Prospective Students

The School of Public Health will provide guidance for prospective students as follows:

Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026

Venue: Tetsumon-Kinen Auditorium 14F, Experimental Reserch Bldg. &Online.

Please check the following website for further information.

https://www.m.u-tokyo.ac.jp/english/daigakuin/apply/appguidemain.html#5

5. Benefit from Japanese government employment agency

Please see the relevant parts on Japanese version.

Outline of the curriculum

Subject	Description	Credits
Epidemiological Research & Practice	This course provides the essential “epidemiological thinking,” knowledge, and basic skills required for students who wish to engage in epidemiological research and public health activities in practice. The course aims to help students understand the fundamentals of the theory and methods of epidemiological research conducted in social settings—such as communities and workplaces—within real-life environments. Students will learn the specific methods and techniques involved, as well as the key considerations when conducting, implementing, or utilizing this type of epidemiological research.	2
Practice & Assessment in Public Health	This course provides the essential knowledge, skills, and mindset for students who wish to engage in public health and health promotion activities in practice, or who aspire to pursue careers directly or indirectly related to these fields. Using various real-world examples and through presentations by practitioners and researchers, students will learn about the planning, implementation, and evaluation of epidemiological research and preventive health activities conducted in communities and workplaces, as well as how to apply these findings to policy. The primary objective is to acquire knowledge and skills in preventive health from a practical perspective, focusing on “how to address realities that cannot be resolved by theory alone while maintaining scientific rigor.”	2
Statistics Analysis of Medical Data	This course aims to teach the fundamentals of statistical inference, as well as the statistical analysis methods commonly used in medical research and those that are somewhat more advanced but essential to master. Through a focus on practical examples, students will acquire the basic statistical knowledge necessary for reading medical papers, while also developing the foundational skills required to conduct their own statistical analyses.	2
Practicum in Medical Statistics	Students will conduct exercises using the statistical analysis software JMP, applying practical examples to the key statistical methods covered in the “Statistical Analysis of Medical Data” course. Following this, each group will develop exploratory research hypotheses, then perform analyses using JMP with public data available on eStat (http://www.e-stat.go.jp/). Finally, students will present their analysis results and learn how to effectively present their findings.	2
Design of Medical Research	This course consists of lectures and practical exercises on the design of epidemiological and clinical trials and the actual management of research. The goal is to acquire the fundamental knowledge necessary to understand papers published in leading journals—particularly with regard to their design—and to develop the ability to draft protocols collaboratively, as well as the skills required to participate in research administration.	2

Clinical Epidemiology	Subjects of clinical epidemiological studies exist in clinical practice. Researchers must find out research questions in clinical practice, make a study hypothesis and an appropriate study design, make statistical analyses with available data and make clinically valid interpretation of the results. The course provides theories and practical skills of clinical epidemiology that are essential for implementing clinical studies.	2
Clinical Epidemiology Exercise	1. Learning How to Write Medical Research Papers This course is designed for students who are seriously considering writing medical research papers while still in school. 2. Learning How to Write Research Grant Proposals This course is intended for students who are seriously considering applying for research grants after graduation. Participants will acquire practical skills to establish a research topic based on their own clinical or public health experience, describe the background, objectives, methods, and expected results of the research, and prepare a budget estimate. (Prior experience in writing papers or research grant proposals is not required.)	2
Health Economics	The course provides basic knowledge about health economics and basic methods for health economic analyses. Through lectures and group debates, students learn how to apply theories of health economics to actual health policy issues.	2
Health Communication	The purpose of this course is to systematically study the theory and practice of health communication. Health communication is a branch of communication studies focused on the fields of medicine and public health; it examines the exchange of knowledge and information related to health and medical care among healthcare professionals, between healthcare professionals and patients or the general public, and among patients or the general public themselves.	2
Health Communication Practice	This course aims to deepen students' understanding of the theories and strategies covered in the "Health Communication" lecture by specifically addressing the skills necessary for effective health communication—both in face-to-face interactions and through the media—and conducting practical exercises. The goal is to enable students to apply these skills in real-world health communication settings, such as medical institutions, government agencies, educational institutions, research institutions, patient support organizations, and the media.	2
Introduction of humanities and social science for medical university graduates I	"Public health (i.e., social medicine) ≈ humanities and social sciences × basic and clinical medicine." The purpose of this course is to support students—primarily those from medical schools—in developing an understanding of public health and qualitative research methodologies by covering the foundational concepts common to the humanities and social sciences.	1

Introduction of humanities and social science for medical university graduates II	“Public health (i.e., social medicine) ≈ humanities and social sciences × basic and clinical medicine.” While the humanities and social sciences encompass a wide range of fields, world history, philosophy, psychology, sociology (history of social thought), and art history are more fundamental; these fields were covered in Introduction to Humanities and Social Sciences I for students from medical faculties. As a sequel to that course, this lecture will cover political science, economics, anthropology, law, business administration, and other fields not covered in Part I.	1
Seminar in Healthcare Technology Assessment	The seminar provides the basics of medical technology evaluation. Students will learn a series of health economic evaluation methods such as collection of clinical outcome and cost information for cost-effectiveness analysis, quality of life evaluation, decision tree and Markov modeling, cost-effectiveness calculation, and sensitivity analysis.	1
Seminar in Healthcare Organization Management	Not offered for 2026AY	2
Overview on Clinical Medicine	For non-physician students. The course provides basic knowledge of clinical medicine. Students will learn medical terminology and develop basic skills for reading medical articles.	1
Medical research data management and CDISC standards	CDISC (Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium) standards were established as international standards for clinical trial data and associated metadata used in electronic clinical trial submissions, and their use is mandated by regulatory authorities in both the United States and Japan. Furthermore, these standards have been expanded to be applicable in all aspects of clinical and epidemiological research—including electronic data collection, data management, statistical analysis, and archiving—and their adoption in academia is widely expected in the future. In Japan, the medical community’s understanding of the significance, role, and practical application of these international standards remains insufficient. This lecture aims to teach the importance of interoperability in data, software, and research operations through the use of CDISC standards, while also providing hands-on experience with clinical and epidemiological research data management—an interdisciplinary field at the intersection of medicine and information science.	1
Cancer Epidemiology	This course provides a systematic overview of the essential foundations of cancer descriptive statistics, including cancer registration methods; analytical epidemiological studies aimed at identifying the causes of cancer; molecular epidemiological research integrating genomics, the microbiome, and tumor immunology; systematic reviews and meta-analyses—research designed to link individual pieces of epidemiological evidence to policy; as well as research on the dissemination and implementation of evidence-based cancer prevention methods and the principles of cancer screening. We will provide a systematic	1

	learning opportunity by introducing the current situation both in Japan and abroad, as well as the latest research from the National Cancer Center.	
Mental Health I	The objective of this course is to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to develop evidence-based strategies for addressing mental health challenges, grounded in the epidemiology and methodology of mental health. Specifically, the learning objectives include: systematically understanding and explaining the epidemiology and methodology of mental health; describing the current state of scientific evidence regarding primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention in mental health; and learning how to collaborate with group members and exercise leadership while developing mental health strategies tailored to specific challenges.	2
Mental Health II	This course aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to address key topics in mental health—including traumatic stress, perinatal mental health, and workplace mental health—through lectures and discussions. It seeks to develop students' ability to propose, implement, and promote specific strategies for trauma-informed care, as well as perinatal and occupational mental health, as public health professionals.	2
Health Education	This lecture course will provide a quick review of behavioral theories related to health intervention, by applying them to case scenarios. Then, invited lecturers will provide "real world practice" examples for health promotion, with emphasis on marketing, empowerment approach, media message design, and community building. Each frame of theories will be critically discussed for their strength and weakness to help integration of existing frames to facilitate effective health promotion in the community/workplaces.	2
Health Sociology	This lecture course will provide sociological theory basis to consider health in social context rather than in bio-medical frame, support to theoretically understand the basis of social epidemiology, or the concept such as social determinants of health. Specific focus will be put on themes such as social stratification and health, health impacts of built environment and social environment, medicalization, and sociology of body/embodiment.	2
Biomedical Ethics I	This course teaches the ethical and philosophical concepts that form the foundation for policy-making in public health and ethical decision-making in clinical practice. It covers topics such as an overview and history of medical ethics, informed consent, and research ethics, and includes both lectures and small-group discussions (debates).	2
Biomedical Ethics II	To cultivate practical knowledge in the two areas of public health ethics and clinical ethics consultation, the course will consist of lectures and small-group discussions (debates). Students are required to attend the lectures and submit reports.	2

Society and Health I	This course aims to provide the necessary preparation for the “Society and Health II” course in Term A2, which will feature more hands-on and practical discussions, by sharing the foundational theories and current insights required for public health practices aimed at social inclusion. Disparities in health and life opportunities are already a social reality. To overcome this, the importance of social inclusion and the need for policy initiatives addressing the social determinants of health are widely recognized. Nevertheless, we will discuss why concrete progress has not yet been realized and what is needed to overcome these challenges, using specific cases and proposed solutions as a basis for our discussion.	2
Society and Health II	Building on the concepts and current challenges related to social inclusion and public health covered in Course A1, “Society and Health I,” this lecture and seminar aims to deepen students’ understanding of the specific activities required to drive “change” in the field of public health. We will achieve this through discussions with guest speakers who have hands-on experience in the field. We will explore how to act as change agents—the drivers of transformation—and consider a variety of approaches, ranging from government to the private sector.	2
Occupational Health: Theory and Practice	This course aims to provide up-to-date information on recent trends and international perspectives in occupational health, while also helping students acquire an understanding of the theoretical background and foundational practical skills necessary to implement occupational health in the workplace through practical exercises. In particular, the practical exercises will cover occupational health practices, case studies, and participatory workplace improvement methods, enabling students to master practical skills. Furthermore, through project-based learning—which involves identifying challenges, developing plans to address them, and presenting the results—students will acquire the skills necessary for project execution. Students who have not yet completed the foundational coursework in occupational health can acquire the necessary basic knowledge by taking the first session on occupational health-related laws and regulations and the general overview of occupational health.	2
Human Resource Development for Health	Not offered for 2026AY	2
Primary Health Care	Not offered for 2026AY	2
Healthcare and Community Health in Japan	Not offered for 2026AY	1

Health Policy	Based on lectures by external instructors, students will study the background, formulation, and implementation of various health and medical systems and policies—including disease prevention measures, health insurance systems, healthcare delivery systems, and healthcare evaluation—as well as their media coverage and societal impact. They will examine these topics from the perspectives of various stakeholders, relevant laws and regulations, and cost-sharing mechanisms, while deepening their understanding through real-world case studies.	2
Healthcare Informatics	The objective of this course is to understand strategies for addressing the various challenges of modern healthcare through the use of IT, from the perspectives of institutional frameworks, technological infrastructure, data utilization, and artificial intelligence. First, students will learn the significance of electronic medical records and claims databases—which form the foundation of healthcare transformation—and grasp their relationship with healthcare informatization policies that promote their advancement. Additionally, students will acquire knowledge of standardization technologies, Internet communication mechanisms, and security technologies essential for the safe and smooth circulation of medical data, and learn the fundamentals of databases that enable the secondary use of data. Furthermore, students will understand the basic methods of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies used to transform accumulated medical data into valuable insights. They will also gain an overview of natural language processing, ranging from its fundamentals to practical applications, as it contributes to the analysis of text data specific to the medical field. Through this learning, students will discuss how medical information should be managed and utilized within healthcare service systems and cultivate a practical perspective for transforming the current healthcare system into a more advanced one.	2
Practice in Healthcare Informatics	The objective of this practical course is to master methods for implementing healthcare IT by gaining hands-on experience ranging from building infrastructure in a cloud environment to advanced data analysis. First, to put the advanced utilization of medical data into practice, students will participate in practical exercises in machine learning and natural language processing. In an environment that closely resembles real-world data, students will implement programs, evaluate models, and experience the analysis process for medical-specific text data, thereby learning about the practical challenges and solutions involved in applying AI technologies to clinical settings. In the latter half, students will conduct server setup and network security exercises using cloud services (AWS), which are essential for modern system infrastructure, to learn the practical aspects of infrastructure design for the secure handling of medical data. Furthermore, through exercises in building services that apply these skills, students will deepen their understanding of the system architecture required for the actual provision of medical services.	1

Forensic Medicine & Medical Law	Forensic medicine is a discipline that provides medical expertise to ensure the proper administration of justice. In other words, it is a branch of medicine dedicated to protecting the safety and rights of the public. In addition to determining the cause of death, forensic medicine also conducts examinations of living crime victims (clinical forensic medicine). This course aims to help students understand the objectives and scope of forensic medicine. Furthermore, focusing on areas within forensic medicine related to public health—such as the system for determining the cause of death, poisoning, large-scale disasters, and abuse—the course will be conducted in an omnibus format.	2
Public Health Preparedness	This course covers the essential knowledge public health professionals need regarding responses to various health crises—such as outbreaks of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases and large-scale disasters—as well as risk communication. Students will also learn the fundamentals of epidemiological investigation methods necessary for health crisis management through the analysis of case studies.	1
Health Administration & Public Health Preparedness Exercise	Students will gain practical experience in health crisis management and public health administration in general, including the collection of various data, the calculation of epidemiological indicators, the formulation of hypotheses regarding causes, the planning, implementation, and evaluation of practical countermeasures, and the management of organizations and systems involved in implementing these measures.	2
Environmental Health	This course introduces students to environmental health perspectives on how environmental factors influence human health at individual and population levels. Students will understand basic concepts and methods to assess environmental exposures and health effects. Studies for specific environmental factors (air pollution, water pollution, weather and climate variability) associated with health will be covered and discussed in the course.	2
Public health informatics	This course provides a step-by-step introduction to behavioral change theory, techniques, clinical implementation, business, and design methodologies, offering students the knowledge base they need to plan and design behavioral intervention apps in group exercises. Through a logical progression from theory to case studies to implementation, the course fosters integrated thinking from multiple perspectives—clinical, entrepreneurial, research, and design.	2
Seminar in Public health informatics	Students will work in groups of three to four to plan and design behavioral intervention applications using wearables and mobile apps. While they will not implement the applications, they will comprehensively examine the target audience, behavioral change theories, intervention content, expected health outcomes, functionality, UI design, and evaluation plans from market, theoretical, and clinical perspectives. Through midterm and final presentations, students will develop peer evaluation skills and constructive critical thinking across multiple groups.	2

Intermediate Epidemiology	This course is intended for graduate students who wish to deepen their understanding of epidemiology, the study of health indicators and health-related event occurrence among human populations. It covers basic concepts of causation, causal inference, measures, study designs, bias, data analysis, and interpretation, using published research papers and textbooks.	1
Methods for Environmental Health Research	This course introduces students to the advanced methodologies to investigate the short-term effects of environmental risk factors on human health. It will provide basic concepts, study designs and statistical regression models using time-series data that have been widely used and intensively developed for the last few decades in the field of environmental epidemiology. Students will be able to interpret time-series data and regression models and acquire skills to apply the methodologies through hands-on practice using R.	2
Comparative Healthcare Systems in Asia	Not offered for 2026AY	2
Internship	Students attend public health facilities (public health research & testing facilities, think tanks, NPOs, healthcare facilities etc.) and leverage their subsequent practical experiences to develop skills in identifying personal initiatives, conducting analysis, and planning measures/policies.	2
Special Lecture in Public Health	Through lectures and discussions, students will acquire a fundamental understanding of the history, significance, and societal demands of public health, and develop the mindset necessary to cultivate the standards, perspectives, and competencies required of public health practitioners and researchers. There will also be opportunities for exchange of views with second-year students and junior faculty members. Additionally, the course will include an omnibus-style introduction to various research fields, which will also serve as an orientation for laboratory assignments.	2
Independent Study	Develop advanced problem-solving skills in various fields of public health.	6