

**UAMS Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health**  
and  
**UALR William H. Bowen School of Law**

Concurrent Degree Program for JD and MPH Degrees

**I. Curricular Requirements**

A student at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock or at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences may pursue the Juris Doctor (JD) and Masters in Public Health (MPH) degrees under a concurrent degree program which allows cross-credit for certain specified courses. The Concurrent Degree Program offers a potential savings of 24 credit hours in the total credit hours otherwise required for both degrees. A student in the Concurrent Degree Program must complete all the requirements for the JD degree as specified by the School of Law, and all requirements for the MPH as specified by the College of Public Health (COPH). The Concurrent Degree Program is subject to the following conditions:

- A. In order to receive cross-credit, credit must be earned for the course in the degree program in which the course is offered. For instance, courses in the MPH program listed in Section IV below will receive credit in the JD program only if the student received credit for the course in the MPH program.
- B. In the MPH program, a student may receive elective credits for 12 semester hours of approved courses in the JD program. In courses completed prior to fall 2011, the student must have received a C- or higher. In courses completed after summer 2011, the student must have received a minimum grade of C+ (2.30) or higher. A list of the approved JD courses is set out in Section III below.
- C. In the JD program, a student may receive elective credits for 12 semester hours of approved courses in the MPH program completed with a minimum grade of B. A list of approved MPH courses is set out in Section IV below.
- D. In the JD program, a student must complete LAW 6350: Administrative Law and LAW 6283/6357: Public Health Law and Ethics (This course is cross-listed with PBHL 5283/9443: Public Health Law and Ethics) in addition to courses otherwise required for the JD degree. The student may not receive credit for the Administrative Law course offered in the MPH program. In the MPH program, a student must complete PBHL 5783: Health Communication and PBHL 5843: Racial-Ethnic Health Disparities: Theory, Experience, and Elimination.
- E. A student may not receive credit in both programs for courses that cover the same or substantially equivalent material except for courses officially cross-listed as set out in D above.

## **II. Administrative Policies and Procedures**

- A. The College of Public Health COPH Liaison for the MPH/JD Program and the School of Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs shall meet biannually, or more often as needed, to evaluate the combined degree program. They shall consider matters such as current course offerings and coordination of course sequences, and make recommendations for amendments of the program to their respective faculties. Each of the above persons may approve a course or courses not on this list between biannual meetings if the course or courses are compatible with the goals of the Concurrent Degree Program or the course is the substantial equivalent of an approved course. Any courses approved in this manner must be considered for permanent inclusion in the program at the next biannual meeting.
- B. A student enrolled in the Concurrent Degree Program is subject to all administrative policies and procedures of each program during the period of enrollment in the program.
- C. A student must obtain admission separately to the JD program and the MPH program. Once admitted to both programs, a student enters the concurrent program by filing the attached Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees.
- D. A student currently enrolled in one program may enter the Concurrent Degree Program by obtaining admission to the other program and filing the Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees. Credit toward the JD degree shall only be given for course work taken after the student has matriculated in the law school. A maximum of six (6) hours of credit toward the MPH degree may be obtained for JD course work taken prior to admission to the MPH degree with permission of the COPH Liaison for the MPH/JD Program.
- E. A student is not enrolled in the program until copies of the Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees are filed with the Registrar of the School of Law and with the UAMS Office of the University Registrar.
- F. A student who has completed one degree may not enter the Concurrent Degree Program to complete the other degree.
- G. After filing the Declaration of Intent to Pursue Concurrent Degrees, the student shall schedule a joint meeting with the COPH Liaison for the MPH/JD Program, and the School of Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Times of enrollment in each program, preliminary course selection, and potential conflicts shall be discussed.
- H. A student who enters the Concurrent Degree Program must select which program to pursue first and notify the other program in order that enrollment may be deferred. Full-time JD students who begin the JD program first must complete the

first year of the JD program before beginning the MPH program. Full-time JD students will normally begin the MPH program in their second year. After completing, the first year of the JD program, students will be permitted to enroll concurrently in JD and MPH courses.

- I. The total credit hour load in both programs for concurrently enrolled students shall not exceed the normal maximum load in either program without the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the School of Law and the COPH Liaison for the MPH/JD Program .
- J. Under no circumstances will concurrent enrollment be permitted during the first year of the full time JD program. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Law School and the COPH Liaison for the MPH/JD Program may grant permission for a first year, part-time division student who is not employed to register for both the required JD program curriculum and courses in the MPH program.
- K. Grade point averages and class standings in each program are determined without consideration of the credit hours accepted from the other programs.
- L. A student must comply with all degree requirements established for each program. For instance, the COPH has a requirement that all combined degree requirements be completed not more than eight years after enrollment in the degree program. The School of Law has a requirement that all degree requirements be completed not more than seven years after enrollment in the JD program. A student enrolled in the concurrent degree program must earn any credit hours in the MPH program to be applied to the JD degree within seven years of enrolling in the School of Law and any credit hours in the JD program to be applied to the MPH degree within eight years of enrolling in the COPH.

### **III. JD Courses Approved for MPH Program**

In addition to the required LAW 6350: Administrative Law and LAW 6357/ PBHL 5283/9443: Public Health Law and Ethics courses, the following courses offered by the School of Law may be used for up to 6 hours of specialty credit in the MPH program:

LAW 6203	Alternative Dispute Resolution	2 or 3
LAW 6256/6393	Civil Liberties	2 or 3
LAW 6399	Disability Law	3
LAW 6269/6328	Employment Law	3
LAW 6262/6362	Environmental Law	2 or 3
LAW 6396	Immigration Law	2 or 3
LAW 6368	Insurance Law	3
LAWB 6257	Interviewing and Counseling	2

LAW 6232/6372	Land Use	2 or 3
LAW 6272	Law and Medicine	2 or 3
LAW 6273	Law and Psychiatry	2 or 3
LAW 6280/6374	Legislation	2 or 3
LAW 6375	Local Government	3
LAW 6304	Mediation Clinic	4
LAW 6249	Worker's Compensation	2
LAW 6305	Toxic Torts	3
LAW 6318	Water Law	3

#### IV. MPH Courses Approved for JD Program

The following courses offered by the College of Public Health may be used for elective credit in the JD program:

PBHL 5123	The Health Care System	3
PBHL 5843/9843	Racial-Ethnic Health Disparities: Theory, Experience, and Elimination	3
PBHL 5983	Preceptorship in Public Health**	3
PBHL 5991	Culminating Experience Seminar (must be in law-related subject)	1
PBHL 5992	Culminating Experience Project (project must be in law-related subject)**	2
PBHL 5363	Introduction to Health Policy and Politics	3
PBHL 5273/HSRE 9703	Health Economics	3
PBHL 5143	Management of Health Care Organizations	3
PBHL 5243	Health Systems Strategic Planning	3
PBHL 5253	Health Information Systems for Administrators	3
PBHL 5163	Introduction to Health Systems Financial Mgt.	3
PBHL 5333	Advanced Health Systems Financial Management	3
PBHL 5353	Seminar in Human Resources Management	3
PBHL 5413	American Health Care Reform	3
PBHL 5583	Advanced Applications in Healthcare Management	3
PBHL 5683/9353/HPPR 9353	Social Determinants of Health	3
PBHL 9303	Advanced Org Behavior	3
PBHL 9373/HPPR 5843	Effective Crisis Communication	3

\*\* JD and MPH academic advisors must be consulted prior to beginning course related processes.

Approved by the Faculty, School of Law: September 12, 2002

Approved by the Faculty, College of Public Health: September 2002.

Revised: August 2011, March 2015, May 2016

**DECLARATION OF INTENT TO PURSUE  
COMBINED DEGREES**

**Copies of this Declaration of Intent to pursue Combined Degrees must be filed with the Registrar of the School of Law and with the COPH Liaison for the MPH/JD Program of the College of Public Health. You are not enrolled in the combined degree program until this form has been completed and filed in both offices. By signing and filing this Declaration, you (i) acknowledge receipt of the curricular requirements and policies and procedures of the UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK School of Law JD and UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES College of Public Health MPH Combined Degree Program and (ii) understand that it is your responsibility to make sure you satisfy all requirements for the combined degree program as described. Failure to meet the combined degree program requirements can result in failure to meet the requirements for either degree individually.**

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Student Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Will you first enroll in the JD or MPH program? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Date of enrollment in the first program: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Anticipated date of enrollment in second program: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Liaison for the MPH/JD Program  
College of Public Health  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
School of Law  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_