

# Department of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences



The Department of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences (DEOHS) in the University of Washington's School of Public Health builds healthy communities and safe workplaces—in Washington and around the globe.

- We educate students who will be tomorrow's health and safety leaders.
- We research how environmental exposures and workplace factors affect people's health.
- We develop and test evidence-based health solutions for workers, employers and communities.

**Our vision:** Sustainable communities where everyone has access to clean air, clean water, safe food and safe workplaces.

**Our approach:** We believe every person should have a safe place to work and a healthy neighborhood to call home. Our faculty, students and staff conduct research and provide services that protect workers, improve health and strengthen communities.

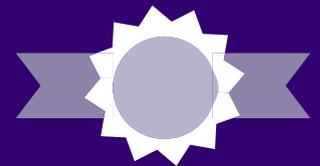
We collaborate with thousands of partners—communities, businesses, tribes, government agencies and others—to translate our research findings into better health, with a focus on vulnerable populations.



## Fast facts



**No. 7 in the world<sup>1</sup>**  
for environmental & occupational health programs



**Nationally accredited<sup>2</sup>**  
graduate and undergraduate programs

# 70+

**Funded centers and projects** researching environmental and occupational health



**Serving thousands**  
of NW workers and employers annually

1. US News & World Report. 2. National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council and the Council on Education for Public Health.

# EDUCATION

## 6

**Degrees**, a BS in Environmental Public Health and five graduate degrees

## 5+

**Areas of emphasis** to gain specialized disciplinary training

DEOHS offers a BS in Environmental Public Health and five graduate degrees:

- MS in Environmental Health Sciences
- MS in Environmental Health Sciences: Applied
- MPH in Environmental Health Sciences
- MPH in Occupational and Environmental Medicine (for physicians)
- PhD in Environmental Health Sciences

Students in our MS, Applied MS and PhD degree programs may choose an “area of emphasis” to gain specialized disciplinary training—or create their own customized degree pathway.

- Environmental Public Health
- Environmental Toxicology
- Infectious Diseases
- Occupational Hygiene/Exposure Science
- One Health
- Individualized Track

Graduate students can choose flexible, customizable degree options that let them graduate job-ready in as little as 15 months.

Undergraduate students complete a 400-hour internship, preparing them for STEM careers in science practice or research.

Our interdisciplinary faculty are nationally recognized experts who are trained as chemists, engineers, epidemiologists, exposure scientists, industrial hygienists, microbiologists, nutritionists, physicians, toxicologists and other public health scientists.



### Our degrees\*

228 degrees granted  
151 bachelor's degrees  
108 master's degrees  
29 doctoral degrees

### Our students\*

66% Washington state residents  
72% women  
21% underrepresented minorities  
8% international students

### Our faculty

147 total faculty  
38 primary  
4 joint  
105 auxiliary

*\*Education data from 2017-2022*

# RESEARCH

**\$26  
million**

in annual grant and  
contract awards for  
research and training

Clean air, clean water, safe food and safe workplaces—these are the building blocks of healthy communities.

Our research examines how environmental and on-the-job exposures affect people's health.

We collaborate with cross-sector partners and communities to translate our research findings into evidence-based tools that improve people's lives and livelihoods.

Data shows that some communities bear a heavier burden of environmental health risks and workplace illnesses and injuries. We are committed to improving health equity in Washington and around the world.

Our innovative research focuses on those most at risk for adverse health outcomes, including children, the elderly, low-income communities and people of color.

## Research expertise:

Worker health and safety • Indoor air quality • Health impacts of air, water and noise pollution • Health impacts of wildfire smoke, extreme heat and climate change • Pandemic preparedness and disaster resilience • Detection and control of infectious diseases and pathogens • The microbiome and its role in environmental exposures • Chemical and biological exposures • Environmental exposures and children's health • Environmental toxicology • One Health (the links between human, animal and environmental health) • Food systems, food safety and food policy • The built environment



## Our 70+ research centers and projects include:

Center for Health and the Global Environment

Center for One Health Research

Interdisciplinary Center for Exposures, Diseases, Genomics and Environment

Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety

Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center

# SERVICE



DEOHS provides health and safety services and leads research projects in **34 of 39 Washington counties**.

## 69

Companies served through on-site consultations with our **Field Research and Consultation Group**.

## 3,260

Professionals trained through courses offered by our **Continuing Education programs**.

## 2,018

Samples analyzed in our **Environmental Health Lab**.

## 442

Patients treated during 1,115 visits to our **Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic**.

## 140

Environmental health consultations with health care professionals and the public.

DEOHS provides an array of services to the public across Washington and other Northwest states that lead to safer workplaces and fewer on-the-job injuries and deaths.

- Free workplace safety consultations for small businesses.
- Continuing education and training for health and safety professionals.
- Environmental health laboratory analysis.
- Clinic-based health services for injured workers.



### **Field Research and Consultation Group**

We provide free, on-site evaluations of health and safety issues in the workplace, with priority given to small businesses in manufacturing, construction and other industries.

### **Continuing Education programs**

We provide workplace safety and health training, serving occupational safety and health professionals, workers and employers in the Pacific Northwest. We offer courses through the Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety and the Pacific Northwest OSHA Education Center, the only OSHA-authorized training facility in our region.

### **The Gilbert S. Omenn, MD, PhD, and Martha A. Darling Environmental Health Research Laboratories**

Our Environmental Health Laboratory identifies exposure hazards in chemical and industrial processes, quantifying hazardous compounds in soil, air, water and biological samples. A multimillion-dollar renovation completed in 2021 upgraded our molecular toxicology, vivarium, microbiology and other labs, and added new labs for mass spectrometry, biosafety level 2, trace metals, inorganics and gas calibration analysis.

### **Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic**

Located at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, the clinic diagnoses, treats and prevents work-related injuries and illnesses. Specialty services include the Center for Chemically Related Illness, the Healthy Animal Worker Clinic and the Center for Occupational Health Education.

### **The Northwest Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit**

PEHSU is part of a nationwide network of specialists working to improve reproductive and children's health by increasing knowledge and awareness about environmental health. We offer consultation services for health care professionals and provide medical information and advice to public health professionals, clinicians, policymakers, individuals and communities.

## CONNECT

**Hans Rosling Center for Population Health**  
3980 15th Ave. NE, 2nd floor  
Seattle, WA 98195-1618  
**Web:** [deohs.uw.edu](http://deohs.uw.edu)  
**Phone:** 206.543.6991

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