

Department of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences

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Creating sustainable communities where everyone has access to clean air, clean water, safe food and safe workplaces.

Housed in the UW School of Public Health, we research how environmental exposures and workplace factors affect people's health. In collaboration with employers, tribes, communities and government agencies in the Pacific Northwest and beyond, we translate our findings into better health with a focus on vulnerable populations.

Our degrees²

278 degrees awarded

- 136 BS
- 41 MS Thesis
- 30 MS Applied
- 47 MPH
- 24 PhD

Our students²

- 25% first-generation college students
- 60% Washington state residents
- 8% international students
- 43% BIPOC³
- 70% identify as female

2. Fall 2019–Summer 2024

3. BIPOC includes: African American, Asian American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and Latino/Hispanic American students; and students of two or more races.

Our faculty

- 37 primary faculty
- 103 auxiliary faculty
- 26 emeritus faculty

Annual financial support

- \$28 million in external funding
- \$8.25 million from WA State Medical Aid and Accident funds



3rd in the U.S.

6th in the world

for environmental & occupational health programs¹

5 degrees

BS in Environmental Public Health
4 graduate degrees

13 research centers

Including:

- Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
- Center for Disaster Resilient Communities
- Center for Environmental Health Equity
- Center for Exposures, Diseases, Genomics and Environment
- Center for One Health Research
- Center for Health and the Global Environment

15+ research areas

Including:

- Worker health and safety • Indoor air quality • Environmental toxicology • Air, water and noise pollution • Health impacts of wildfire smoke, extreme heat and climate change • Pandemic preparedness • Detection and control of infectious diseases and pathogens • Environmental exposures and children's health • Food systems, safety and policy

1. According to U.S. News & World Report



Our facilities

23,000+ sq. ft. of lab and support space including capabilities in:

- Molecular toxicology
- Functional genomics
- Microbiology (BSL-2+)
- Tissue culture
- Vivarium
- Mass spectrometry
- Data science

Environmental Health Lab¹

2,000 samples analyzed
200 service requests

Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic²

644 patients seen
3,717 clinic visits
742 referrals

Continuing Education³

17,900 health and safety professionals trained

1. Annual averages for 2019–2023

2. Annual data for 2023

3. January 2019–June 2024

Who we serve

DEOHS provides the following services across the Northwest to create safer workplaces and fewer on-the-job injuries and fatalities:

- No-cost workplace health and safety consultations by our **Field Research and Consultation Group**.
- Professional health and safety training with our **Continuing Education program**.
- Exposure hazard analysis via the **Gilbert S. Omenn, MD, PhD, and Martha A. Darling Environmental Health Research Laboratories**.
- Clinic-based health services for injured workers at our **Occupational and Environmental Medicine Clinic**.
- Improved reproductive and children's health through consultations by the **Northwest Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit**.
- Risk assessment of medication and other exposures during pregnancy for healthcare providers by the **Teratogen Information System Database**.

DEOHS alumni

DEOHS graduates continue in academic research or are employed in the public and private sector, working for employers including:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Washington State Dept. of Labor and Industries
- Tacoma-Pierce County Health Dept.
- Public Health – Seattle & King County
- Amazon
- Boeing



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