

General:

25% of vets in public practice. Often cited benefits of public practice include regular hours, good benefits (sick days, vacation, holidays, health insurance, etc.), varied work duties, high-impact contributions to society, loan repayment after 10 years of gov work.

Dual Degrees (General): DVM, MPH or DVM, MS in Food Safety

- Never have to take DVM and masters courses in the same semester, but some students do to save \$ via block tuition.
- Admission and courses are generally thought to be easier than vet school.
- Get the 2nd degree (or at least a start) early when it does the most good for job applications.
- It's all about "Double Dipping" – save at least ¼ to 1/3 off MPH or ~1/3 off MS in FS.
- If you stay in public practice, a master's is probably something you'll eventually want.
- Get your field experience/practicum/project done when you are a CVM student.
- Public vet practice is getting more competitive, and a masters degree helps you compete.
- **But** – Dual degree programs are not for everyone; you may want to concentrate on one degree at a time. And it is expensive.

MSU's MPH program: <http://publichealth.msu.edu/pph/>

- 42 credits. All online. 9 credits transfer from CVM. - No out-of-state tuition for anyone.
- If you take public health field experience (LCS 690 & 691) clerkships and sign up for the 4 cr of MPH practicum (HM 891 and 892) at the same time, then you will save your time but will not save any money.
- Double dipping: If you take HM 803 (Epi) and HM 864 (Intersect of An. and Hu. Health) before 3rd sem of vet school, then you won't have to take VM 533 (Epi) or VM (544) in your 3rd semester of vet school, thereby freeing up time in 3rd semester to take MPH courses for free under block tuition.
- Dr. Melinda Wilkins works for the MPH program and is the advisor to virtually all of the DVM/MPH students.
- Most students apply for the MPH program during their 1st year of vet school.

MS in Food Safety: <http://www.online.foodsafety.msu.edu/>

30 credits. Can transfer 9 from vet school. No general pubH electives. Students mostly are working for Food Companies (75%) and food regulatory (25%). Do practicum in summer or in clerkships. Good for students with an interest in food animal issues. Total Program is about \$17,000. See Dr. Julie Funk who is the program's director.

A Day at CDC for Vet Med Students: Every two years. Should be in January of 2014. The CVM has subsidized travel in previous years. Watch the One Medicine listserv for information.

Public Health Field Experiences

- You can do hundreds of different things as LCS 690 or LCS 691, which are now considered "on campus" clerkships.
- LCS 690 "Public Health Field Experience" (can take twice) or LCS 691 "Public Health Research Experience". "Public Health Field Experience" with a real grade looks better on your transcript than does a pass/fail "Externship"
- You can sign up for LCS 690 or 691 without finalized specific plans. Get form from Bartlett.
- Most common things that students do:* USDA:APHIS:VS, USDA:FSIS, MDA, MDNR, CDC, FDA, DHS, other state ag or health depts, CSnip, Virg Maryland list of 130 sites, Army, USAF,

WHO, animal control, humane societies, wildlife programs, AFIP, Zoetis, MPI, Dow Chem. etc.
-Ask Dr. Bartlett to Email you the big Word document regarding contact info for jobs, clerkships, real jobs, etc.

Government and Corporate Vet Practice (LCS 678):

- Gov and Corp Vet Practice "The field trip" clerkship. Best taken as a 3rd year.
-Field trips almost every day. Transportation in MSU mini-vans. Visit with about 70 public practice veterinarians at USDA (FSIS, AC and Vet Services), Detroit Zoo, Detroit international bridge and airport, US Army and Air Force at Dayton, OH, Zoetis Animal Health, Dow Chemical, MPI, animal control, humane society shelter, Mich. Dept of Public Health, Mich Dept of Ag., CDC, FDA and DHS.
-Learn about all the possible career paths for veterinarians in epidemiology, regulatory, public health, pathology, lab animals, basic sciences, animal control, envir. health, international vet med. and others.

One Medicine Club: Come to first meeting Sep 26th at noon re: public practice at CVM. Hear from other students about MPH, MS in Food Safety, clerkship opportunities, etc.

Erez Gueta, President guetaere@cvm.msu.edu

Summer Jobs: Watch your Email mailbox. Nice for Job, Masters project, resume builder.

Summer Research Programs:

- 1) NIH funding. Dr. Vilma Yuzbasiyan-Gurkan yuzbasiyan@cvm.msu.edu
- 2) Food animal fellow – Dr. Dan Grooms groomsd@cvm.msu.edu

The listserv of interested public health students

The One Medicine Club maintains a listserv of students interested in public health, public vet practice, etc. You should get on this list to receive announcements.

Meetings with Bartlett: Usually at the horseshoe at noon hour.

Federal public service loan repayment plan

<http://www.finaid.org/loans/publicservice.phtml>

"The College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 established a new public service loan forgiveness program. This program discharges any remaining debt after 10 years of full-time employment in public service. The borrower must have made 120 payments as part of the Direct Loan program in order to obtain this benefit. Only payments made on ;or after October 1, 2008 count toward the required 120 monthly payments. (Borrowers may consolidate into Direct Lending in order to qualify for the loan forgiveness program starting July 1, 2008.)" This is for federal stafford (subsidized and unsubsidized) loans.

**Paul Bartlett, MPH, DVM, PhD, DACVPM, DACVPM - Epidemiology
Professor, LCS, CVM.**

**171 Food Safety Building, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI 48823
517/884-2016 bartlett@cvm.msu.edu**

**Melinda Wilkins, DVM, MPH, PhD DACVPM
Program in Public Health (The MPH Program)
Michigan State University
wilkinsm@msu.edu**

Julie Funk, DVM, PhD
Director - MS in Food Safety
Michigan State University

funkj@cvm.msu.edu