



PVAMU EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO TACKLE GLOBAL HEALTH CHALLENGES AND PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY WITH DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

The University has become the first HBCU in Texas to offer the program focused on increasing diversity in medicine.

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (Feb. 6, 2023) – Prairie View A&M University is proud to announce the launch of a new Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts in Public Health this spring. PVAMU is the first Historically Black College and University in Texas to offer the program.

The groundbreaking move marks the first step in bridging a glaring gap in health care that University and health officials alike say became fatally obvious during the COVID-19 pandemic. The worldwide eruption highlighted the racial disparities in public health when Blacks and people of color were twice as likely to die from COVID-19 than their white counterparts. This interdisciplinary program will provide students with a comprehensive education in the principles and practices of public health, preparing them for careers in a rapidly growing field.

“Reducing health disparities is one of the major goals of public health,” said Alphonso Keaton, dean of the Office for Undergraduate Studies at PVAMU. “Thus, as an HBCU, it is incumbent upon PVAMU to produce highly trained public health professionals with the core competencies in public health who can develop and implement strategies that address the fundamental environment, social and economic causes of health inequities in Texas, the country and globally.”

The curriculum will cover a range of topics, including epidemiology, environmental health, health policy/management, and social and behavioral sciences. Keaton says the program comes at an opportune time, as the need for public health awareness, better health care systems, and Black physicians, are in demand.

“Improving public health and increasing our response time to global health challenges such as infectious diseases, chronic diseases and environmental health hazards are essential for the preservation of communities, particularly communities of color,” Keaton said.

PVAMU is committed to providing students with a top-quality education, and the campus has begun to see an increase in student interest and demand for health-related majors. Graduates of the program will be well-positioned for careers in government agencies, non-profit organizations, hospitals and research institutions.

Please click [here](#) for more information about the BS/BA Public Health program at PVAMU.

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PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY, founded in 1876, is the second oldest public institution of higher education in the state of Texas and the third largest Historically Black College/University (HBCU) in the nation. Designated as an “institution of the first class” in the Texas Constitution, the enrollment exceeds 9,000 students and over 80,000 graduates. PVAMU offers academic programs through its seven colleges, Undergraduate Studies and School of Architecture, boasting degree options leading to bachelor’s to doctoral-

level degrees. A Carnegie-classified high-research (R2) University and a member of The Texas A&M University System, PVAMU is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research and service. For more information, visit www.pvamu.edu.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Candace Johnson

Executive Director of Marketing and
Communications

936-261-1566 • [cajohnson@pvamu.edu](mailto:cjohnson@pvamu.edu)

Marchita Shilo

Assistant Director of Marketing and
Communications

936-261-2134 • mlshilo@pvamu.edu

The Office for Marketing and Communications • 936-261-1560 • www.pvamu.edu/marcomm