Public health professionals understand how factors such as gender, socioeconomic status and access to education can affect health. They apply this knowledge to develop and deliver health programs, services and policies that improve the health and wellbeing of entire populations. They may specialise in preventing the spread of disease, promoting health services, developing policies and practices that deliver fair and equitable health systems, creating safer work environments, investigating sustainable environmental practices, advocating for minority groups, or encouraging communities to adopt healthy lifestyle choices.

Why choose this course?
This course offers the flexibility to concentrate your studies in areas that align with career opportunities. You will choose five elective units from areas that include community nutrition, Indigenous health, family and gender issues, health management and general studies in psychology. You may choose to tailor the program for further study and a career as a registered environmental health officer or occupational health and safety officer.

During this course, you will complete 180 hours of professional placement. This provides an opportunity for you to work alongside industry professionals and contribute to real projects. These may be completed in metropolitan and regional areas in Queensland, or overseas. Recently, our students have been placed with non-government organisations such as Cancer Council and the Heart Foundation, preventative health government departments, community and advocacy groups, and internationally with our partners in Vietnam, Cambodia, and India.

An understanding of the biological, social, cultural, economic and physical factors that underpin the health of a community can be applied to many health disciplines. You will be taught by professionals with backgrounds in medicine, nursing, research, policy development and health service management. Our graduates are strategic thinkers who can apply their knowledge to develop innovative solutions that create improved health and quality of life for everyone.

Minimum English requirements
Students must meet the English proficiency requirements.

Jessica Powell
Real student

'I chose to do a double degree because I’ll have more opportunity to try new experiences. While studying, I’ve travelled from as far north as Mornington Island all the way down to Birdsville and have worked with cardiologists, Indigenous healthcare workers, and registered nurses.'
Bachelor of Public Health

IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

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Careers and outcomes
Many graduates work in local, state or national health departments. Their role may focus on health education and promotion, policy development, epidemiology, risk management and disease prevention. Graduates may also work in non-government and community organisations or as project officers in international health agencies.

By completing further study such as a graduate diploma or masters degree, you can specialise in disease control; health promotion; health, safety and the environment; or health management.

Double degrees
You can widen your career possibilities even further by pairing this degree with one in a complementary area such as nursing, human services or professional communication.

Professional recognition
Graduates are eligible for membership of the Public Health Association of Australia and the Australian Health Promotion Association.

Additional fees
Additional Costs
There are requirements that you will need to meet as a student in this course. Some of these requirements have associated costs. Information is available from the Additional course requirements and costs website.

Scholarships
You can apply for scholarships to help you with study and living costs.
- Equity scholarships scheme
- QUT Sport Scholarship (Elite Athlete)

Course requirements
There are requirements that you will need to meet as a student in this course. You will need to identify these requirements and ensure you allow sufficient time to meet them. Some of these requirements have associated costs.

Blue card: You must undergo a criminal history check for working with children and be issued with a suitability card (blue card) before commencing clinical placement/practicum in an organisation where they may work with children or young people.

The processing of your application may take several months so you must submit your blue card application to HiQ as early as possible to ensure you have your card before you begin any unit that requires contact with children. There is no charge for student blue cards. Students who already have a blue card must register it with QUT.

Information is available from the Additional course requirements and costs website.