



GLOBAL HEALTH MINOR APPLICATION INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

The Global Health (GLBHL) minor is designed to provide undergraduate students with an interdisciplinary exposure to the theoretical, scientific, and practical issues affecting the health of populations in various countries and regions of the world. Emphasis is placed on encouraging students to think critically and reflectively about the multiple factors or determinants that influence individual and population health, as well as specific policy and practice strategies for addressing a range of contemporary global health problems.

The GLBHL minor supports the goals of those who are planning health and health-related careers in research, teaching, or health services, in any of a variety of settings, including universities, government agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, or private industry. The minor also provides valuable training for those who plan advanced specialist health training—in medicine, nursing, pharmacy, allied health (e.g., physical therapy, occupational therapy), public health, and so on. The minor consists of 21 credits, of which 15 credits are prescribed courses, including a supervised fieldwork experience. Students select the other 6 credits from a list of approved courses spanning multiple disciplines and fields of study.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for enrollment in the GLBHL minor, students must:

- have declared a major field of study (students from any department or college in the University may apply);
- be enrolled at the University Park campus; and
- be willing to plan, fund (fully or partially), and engage in substantial fieldwork experience for a period of approximately six weeks.

Ideally, students should apply for the minor in the Spring semester of their sophomore year. Students will be admitted into the minor at the start of the fall semester of each calendar year and must be at least fifth semester standing at the time of enrolling in the minor.

Please note: the Global Health minor is a competitive minor. Not every student who is interested and who, in turn, applies will necessarily be admitted. It is anticipated that approximately twenty students will be admitted to the GLBHL minor each calendar year. Students will be selected for admission to the minor based on their academic experience and achievements, the perceived extent to which they will benefit from completing the GLBHL minor, the perceived extent to which they can contribute to the learning of the whole GLBHL minor cohort, and their level of maturity and discipline (necessary to ensure the successful completion of the fieldwork component of the minor).

A faculty committee will select each cohort of students.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. Complete the Application Package which consists of three parts:
 - a. Application form
 - b. Personal statement
 - c. Proposed plan of study
2. Update and attach a copy of your resume
3. Attach a current copy of your Penn State transcript
4. Request two faculty members, advisers or other professionals who are familiar with your career goals, academic aptitude, and personal characteristics to complete and submit a "Recommendation Form."
5. If called, attend a personal interview



APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND DEADLINE

All completed applications must be submitted (i) by e-mail and (ii) in hardcopy (5 sets) to the GLBHL minor coordinator by the submission deadline (posted on the GLBHL minor website - bbh.hhdev.psu.edu/globalhealth) each Spring semester. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Please forward all application materials to:

Dr. Dana Naughton

Director, Global Health Minor Program
228 Biobehavioral Health Building, University Park, PA 16802-6508
dmn161@psu.edu

Students will receive email confirmation that their application materials have been received shortly after the submission deadline has passed. They will then be notified of the selection committee's decision through their Penn State e-mail in roughly mid-March.



SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please pay careful attention to the following submission instructions. *Failure to do so may result in your application being screened out as being incomplete.*

Hard copy materials:

- The following application materials should be submitted in hardcopy: application package, resume, and Penn State transcript (either an official copy obtained from the Office of the University Registrar, or a copy printed from e-Lion).
- Please submit all hardcopy materials (5 sets) in a plain manila folder. *Do not submit your materials in a fancy plastic folder or sleeve as it will only be discarded upon processing.*
- Please print on both sides of the paper.
- Please staple each set of hardcopy application materials together at the top left hand corner. *Do NOT submit loose sheets of paper or papers secured using paperclips or pins as they can be easily lost.*

Electronic materials:

- The following application materials should be submitted in electronic copy: application package, resume, and Penn State transcript.
- Please print and scan these materials into one PDF document (Adobe Acrobat 9 compatible) that can be opened on a Windows-based PC. Scanning facilities are available on campus in most student computing labs.
- Please name this PDF file as per your given and family names strung together as one word, followed by an underscore and the phrase "GLBHL minor application" e.g. johnsmith_GLBHLminorapplication.pdf Please submit this electronic file by email to the GLBHL minor coordinator on or before the application deadline.
- *Please open and complete the application package using Adobe Acrobat Professional software. If you use Adobe Reader software you will NOT be able to save an electronic copy for your records.*

Recommendation forms:

- Please instruct all referees to directly forward a signed and dated copy of the Recommendation Form to the GLBHL minor coordinator at 216 Biobehavioral Health Building, University Park, 16802-6508.
- *It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all Recommendation Forms reach the GLBHL minor coordinator on or before the submission deadline. The GLBHL Minor Admissions Committee reserves the right to dismiss any incomplete applications.*

Other instructions:

- Students seeking to apply for enrollment in the GLBHL minor must meet individually with the GLBHL minor coordinator prior to submitting their application materials. Applications submitted by students who have not met with the GLBHL minor coordinator prior to the submission deadline will NOT be reviewed by the GLBHL Minor Admissions Committee.
- Thirty minute global health advising sessions may be scheduled by contacting the staff of the Department of Biobehavioral Health, either in person (stop by 216 Biobehavioral Health Building) or by calling 814-863-7256.