

# PUBLIC HEALTH

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The Public Health program introduces students to the fields of public health and health science. "Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of people and their communities. This work is achieved by promoting healthy lifestyles, researching disease and injury prevention, and detecting, preventing, and responding to infectious diseases" (CDC, 2020).

Public health is about prevention. Through the investigation of health problems, public health professionals figure out the what, where, how, who, and why of illness and injury. They then develop and deliver interventions to reduce the incidence of disease and promote healthy lifestyles.

Examples of public health professions include health educator, epidemiologist, public health nurse, environmental scientist, emergency manager, data analyst, biostatistician, and health communications specialist—any job that promotes health within a community. There are three awards available: Associate of Science for Transfer—Public Health Science; Associate of Arts—Public Health, General Studies; and Certificate of Achievement—Public Health.

## Department Contact Information

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Public Health Department Website (<https://prod.orangeoastcollege.edu/academics/kinesiology-athletics/degrees-certificates/public-health/>)

- Public Health - General Studies, Associate in Arts Degree (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/pathways/careers-healthcare/public-health/public-health-general-studies-associate-arts-degree/>)
- Public Health Science, Associate in Science Degree for Transfer (AS-T) (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/pathways/careers-healthcare/public-health/public-health-science-associate-science-degree-transfer-ast/>)
- Public Health, Certificate of Achievement (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/pathways/careers-healthcare/public-health/public-health-coa/>)