

CENTER FOR POPULATION HEALTH AND EQUITY

Kansas City University



ABOUT THE CENTER FOR POPULATION HEALTH AND EQUITY

The Center for Population Health and Equity (CPHE) at Kansas City University (KCU) educates students and engages communities in identifying and addressing the social and structural drivers that contribute to health inequities.

The Center engages across four pillars: **Education, Research, Service and Community Outreach**, each critical to the training and development of KCU's future health professionals who will graduate from KCU poised to provide comprehensive patient care locally and across the country.

The CPHE is active on both of the University's two campuses, located in Kansas City and Joplin, Missouri, where significant disparities persist and prevent underserved populations from attaining their full health potential. The CPHE reinforces a commitment to the overall mission of the University: *improving the well-being of the communities we serve.*

Within this structure, service-learning principles anchor core initiatives. Students participate in experiential volunteer opportunities within the Kansas City and Joplin communities. The goal is to empower people to meet their own health needs and transform community health through policy and systemic change.

THE CPHE MISSION

The CPHE builds momentum around understanding and addressing the social factors that impact health in partnership with local organizations to better prepare students to practice osteopathic medicine, clinical psychology and dentistry while *improving the well-being of the communities we serve.*



CPHE INITIATIVES

CPHE initiatives provide opportunities for KCU students across all degree programs to work with community organizations, apply academic knowledge and develop critical thinking skills.

SCORE 1 FOR HEALTH

KCU's flagship preventive health outreach program serving elementary schools in Kansas City and Joplin for more than three decades and providing critical health screenings to thousands of children each year.

STUDENT HEALTH ADVOCATE PROGRAM

A cooperative effort between KCU and community organizations designed to remove barriers to care, promote health and identify critical resources for individuals and families by pairing them with KCU students to advance shared health goals and help navigate health systems.

SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

An initiative designed to address the growing demand for equitable, accessible mental health services and psychological testing among younger students.

CPHE RESEARCH LAB

A nexus to develop and support student, faculty, staff and community research efforts with an emphasis on the fields of population health, public health, health equity and health policy.

RURAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

KCU's innovative program supporting education pathways designed to expand access to health care careers for students from rural, medically-underserved counties in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas.



ABOUT KCU

Kansas City University was founded in 1916 as one of the nation's five original osteopathic medical schools. Today, KCU is a fully accredited, private, not-for-profit health sciences university strategically located on two campus locations – Kansas City and Joplin, Missouri – to address the growing health needs of both urban and rural populations.

KCU offers doctoral degrees in osteopathic medicine, dental medicine and clinical psychology and a master's degree in biomedical sciences. Dual degree offerings include master's degrees in business administration in health care leadership, public health and bioethics. A new Master of Health Sciences in Anesthesiologist Assistant program launched in January 2026.

To learn more about KCU, our colleges and academic programs, visit kansascity.edu.

DEGREE PROGRAMS

- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)
- Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)
- Doctor of Clinical Psychology (PsyD)
- Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MS)
- Master of Health Science in Anesthesiologist Assistant (MHS-AA)

DUAL-DEGREE PROGRAMS

- DO/MA in Bioethics
- DO/MBA in Health Care Leadership; *in partnership with Rockhurst University*
- DO/MPH in Public Health; *in partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center*
- DMD/MBA in Health Care Leadership; *in partnership with Rockhurst University*
- DMD/MPH in Public Health; *in partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center*