8/10/26

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

Education Committee

Thursday, August 20, 2026
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Overture Room, 2nd Floor
Gordon Dining & Event Center
770 W. Dayton Street, Madison, Wisconsin
& By Videoconference

A. Calling of the Roll

B. Declaration of Conflicts

C. Proposed Consent Agenda:
   1. Approval of the Minutes of the June 4, 2026 Meeting of the Education Committee
   2. UW-Platteville: Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences
   3. UW-Platteville: Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Public Health

D. 2025-2026 Update on Universities of Wisconsin Support for Student Basic Needs – Where We Are & Where We're Going

E. Ongoing Academic and Student Affairs Update

NEW PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION (IMPLEMENTATION) BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–PLATTEVILLE

REQUESTED ACTION

Adoption of Resolution C.2., authorizing the implementation of the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin–Platteville.

Resolution C.2. That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Platteville and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences program at the University of Wisconsin–Platteville.

SUMMARY

The University of Wisconsin–Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Health Sciences. The UW-Platteville B.S. in Health Sciences will be a 120 credit-hour degree program combining 33 credits of Core General Education Requirements, 7 to11 credits of Bachelor of Science requirements, 65 credits of health sciences coursework, and the remainder of credits to 120 completed through elective courses. This program is an elevation of a successful emphasis within the existing Biology major to a full major. Building upon established and growing academic pathways, the program provides students with focused preparation for a wide range of clinical and allied health professions. Graduates of the B.S. in Health Sciences will be prepared to pursue professions and professional pathways for clinical healthcare fields, including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and related health professions as well as allied health careers that require a strong foundation in biological sciences. Demand for the program in the current recruitment pool is demonstrated by both workforce need and student interest. Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) predicts healthcare practitioners and technical occupations are projected to grow in Southwest Wisconsin by 8.7% from 2022 to 2032, resulting in approximately 478 annual job openings in the region[1]. Further, the healthcare support occupations category is expected to see even more rapid growth, with a

[1] Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. *Wisconsin Long Term Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032*. Retrieved at https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/query (July 2026)

projected increase of 11% over the same period, translating to about 875 annual job openings in the area[1]. The existing Health Sciences emphasis is the largest and one of the fastest-growing emphases within the Biology major, reflecting strong student demand for healthcare-focused educational pathways. For students enrolled in this program, standard undergraduate tuition and fee rates will apply.

Wisconsin faces significant healthcare workforce shortages, which are especially acute in rural Southwest Wisconsin, where multiple counties are designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)[2]. UW-Platteville is uniquely positioned to address rural healthcare shortages, through its strong enrollment of rural students, its successful pre-health advising model, and its longstanding partnership with regional healthcare providers. The proposed major further strengthens existing collaborations, including pathways associated with physician assistant, nursing, and physical therapy programs at UW universities, while supporting the broader Southwest Wisconsin healthcare workforce development priorities and regional healthcare workforce needs. Workforce dollars allotted to UW-Platteville in the 2024 biennium support two health sciences positions, one full-time health sciences program manager, and one full-time health sciences faculty position.

Presenter

- Dr. Laura Reynolds, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UW-Platteville

BACKGROUND

This proposal is presented in accord with UW System Administrative Policy 102: Policy on University of Wisconsin System Array Management: Program Planning, Delivery, Review, and Reporting (Revised August 2023), available at https://www.wisconsin.edu/uw-policies/uw-system-administrative-policies/policy-on-university-of-wisconsin-system-array-management-program-planning-delivery-review-and-reporting-2/).

Information on recent academic program changes is available on the program monitoring dashboard at https://www.wisconsin.edu/opar-frontier/uws-academic-program-changes/.

Related Policies

- Regent Policy Document 4-12: Academic Program Planning, Review, and Approval in the University of Wisconsin System

[2] Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Workforce, *Workforce Shortage Areas*. Retrieved at https://bhw.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation/scoring (July 2026)

- UW System Administrative Policy 102: Policy on University of Wisconsin System Array Management: Program Planning, Delivery, Review, and Reporting

ATTACHMENTS

A) Request for Authorization to Implement
B) Cost and Revenue Projections Worksheet
C) Cost and Revenue Projections Narrative
D) Provost's Letter

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES AT UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE PREPARED BY UW-PLATTEVILLE

ABSTRACT

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Health Sciences. The UW-Platteville B.S. in Health Sciences will be a 120 credit-hour degree program combining 33 credits of Core General Education Requirements, 7 to11 credits of Bachelor of Science requirements, 65 credits of health sciences coursework, and the remainder of credits to 120 completed through elective courses. This program is an elevation of a successful emphasis within the existing Biology major to a full major. Building upon established and growing academic pathways, the program provides students with focused preparation for a wide range of clinical and allied health professions. Graduates of the B.S. in Health Sciences will be prepared to pursue professions and professional pathways for clinical healthcare fields, including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and related health professions as well as allied health careers that require a strong foundation in biological sciences. Demand for the program in the current recruitment pool is demonstrated by both workforce need and student interest. Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) predicts healthcare practitioners and technical occupations are projected to grow in Southwest Wisconsin by 8.7% from 2022 to 2032, resulting in approximately 478 annual job openings in the region[1]. Further, the healthcare support occupations category is expected to see even more rapid growth, with a projected increase of 11% over the same period, translating to about 875 annual job openings in the area[1]. The existing Health Sciences emphasis is the largest and one of the fastest-growing emphases within the Biology major, reflecting strong student demand for healthcare-focused educational pathways. For students enrolled in this program, standard undergraduate tuition and fee rates will apply.

Wisconsin faces significant healthcare workforce shortages, which are especially acute in rural Southwest Wisconsin, where multiple counties are designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)[2]. UW-Platteville is uniquely positioned to address rural healthcare shortages, through its strong enrollment of rural students, its successful pre-health advising model, and its longstanding partnership with regional healthcare providers.

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[1] Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. *Wisconsin Long Term Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032*. Retrieved at https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/query (July 2026)

[2] Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Workforce, *Workforce Shortage Areas*. Retrieved at https://bhw.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation/scoring (July 2026)

The proposed major further strengthens existing collaborations, including pathways associated with physician assistant, nursing, and physical therapy programs at UW universities, while supporting the broader Southwest Wisconsin healthcare workforce development priorities and regional healthcare workforce needs. Workforce dollars allotted to UW-Platteville in the 2024 biennium support two health sciences positions, one full-time health sciences program manager and one full-time health sciences faculty position.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION

University Name
University of Wisconsin–Platteville

Title of Proposed Academic Program
Health Sciences

Degree Designation(s)
Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Proposed Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code
51.0000 - Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General

Mode of Delivery
Single university; in-person

Department or Functional Equivalent
Department of Biology

College, School, or Functional Equivalent
College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture

Proposed Date of Implementation
September 2027

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Overview of the Program

The proposed B.S. in Health Sciences is a 120-credit undergraduate degree designated to prepare students for a wide range of healthcare professions and health-related careers. Building on the strengths of the existing Health Sciences emphasis within

the Biology major, the program combines a strong foundation in the biological sciences with flexible curricular pathways that allow students to tailor their studies to specific healthcare interests and professional goals.

Students complete 65 credits within the major, including a 32-credit Biology Core that provides essential coursework in biological principles and laboratory sciences, a 10-credit Health Sciences Core focused on healthcare systems and professional preparation, and 23 credits of health science elective coursework that supports individualized career pathways. The required electives allow students to pursue prerequisite and preparatory coursework aligned with professions such as medicine, physical or occupational therapy, public health, medical laboratory science, healthcare administration, and other allied health or healthcare-related fields. In addition to major requirements, students complete 33 credits of core general education coursework, 7 to 11 credits of Bachelor of Science coursework, and sufficient elective credits to satisfy the university's 120-credit requirement for bachelor's degrees.

The curriculum incorporates High-Impact Practices (HIPs) that enhance student engagement, promote academic success, and strengthen preparation for healthcare careers and professional study. Students begin their academic journey with a Biology First-Year Experience seminar that supports the transition to college while introducing healthcare professions, career pathways, and professional expectations. Experiential learning continues through research experiences that cultivate scientific inquiry, critical thinking, data analysis, and evidence-based decision-making skills. Research opportunities occur through coursework, independent study, laboratory investigations, or collaborative projects with faculty mentors. The program culminates in a senior seminar or capstone experience that encourages students to integrate and apply knowledge gained throughout the curriculum. Faculty advisors will work closely with students to identify and pursue experiences that align with their intended career pathways and expectations of their chosen professional programs.

Through its combination of rigorous scientific coursework, flexible career-focused pathways, high-impact educational practices, and experiential learning opportunities, the B.S. in Health Sciences will provide students with comprehensive preparation for entry into a variety of health-related careers. The program reflects UW-Platteville's commitment to applied learning, student success, and workforce development in the growing healthcare sector.

Projected Enrollments and Graduates by Year Five

Enrollment projections for the Health Sciences program were developed using current enrollment patterns of the Health Sciences emphasis within the Biology major, historical student interest in healthcare-related fields, institutional enrollment trends, and anticipated recruitment opportunities. Initial enrollments are expected to include both

students transitioning from the existing emphasis and newly recruited students. The projections assume modest enrollment growth resulting from the increased visibility and marketability of the new Health Sciences major and the concurrent introduction of the Public Health major. Together, these degree programs will provide clear health-related pathways for prospective students and are expected to strengthen recruitment efforts.

Table 1 represents enrollment and graduation projections for students entering the program over the first five years. Continuing student projections for Year 1 include students transitioning from the existing Health Sciences emphasis during the implementation period. The university's revised Core General Education Requirements (CGER) creates some uncertainty regarding the number of students who may elect to transition from the existing emphasis to the standalone major as that transition for students who started at UW-Platteville before Fall 2026 will change their catalog year and thus, their general education requirements. Given this, the continuing student number is modest assuming some transition from students with a 2026-27 catalog year.

As shown in Table 1, enrollment is projected to increase steadily during the first five years as students are recruited directly into the program. The projections incorporate a retention rate of 75% based on current institutional retention data for the Biology major. Over the five-year period, the program is projected to enroll 150 new students and graduate 42 students.

Table 1: Five-Year Enrollment and Completion Projections by Headcount

Students/Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
New Students	20	25	30	35	40
Continuing Students	15	26	38	46	50
Total Enrollment	35	51	68	81	90
Graduating Students	0	0	7	14	21

Tuition Structure

For students enrolled in the B.S. in Health Sciences program, standard undergraduate tuition and fee rates will apply in accordance with UW System Administrative Policy 805, *Tuition and Fee Policies for Credit Instruction.* For the 2026-27 academic year, a full-time student enrolled in 12-18 credits per semester with:

- in-state residency has a tuition and fee total of $4,613.26 per semester with $3,815.76 attributable to tuition, $688.00 attributable to segregated fees, and $109.50 attributable to textbook rental fees.
- Iowa or Illinois residency is eligible for the Tuition Advantage program and has a tuition and fee total of $7,240.50 with $6,443.00 attributable to tuition, $688.00 attributable to segregated fees, and $109.50 attributable to textbook rental.

- nonresidential status has a tuition and fee total of $9,410.86 with $8,613.36 attributable to tuition, $688.00 attributable to segregated fees, and $109.50 attributable to textbook rental.

Additionally, in accordance with UW System Administrative Policy 825, *Special Course Fees*, some individual courses may charge additional course fees, such as access fees for online materials, transportation and admission costs incurred for required field trips for course instruction, and for materials for projects that result in tangible products retained by the students in a course.

Student Learning Outcomes and Program Objectives

The B.S. in Health Sciences is designed to provide students with a broad and interdisciplinary understanding of human health, healthcare systems, disease prevention, and health promotion. Graduates will develop the scientific knowledge, analytical skills, professional competencies, and ethical foundations necessary for success in healthcare professions, graduate and professional education, and health-related careers. Through coursework, laboratory experiences, research opportunities, advising, and experiential learning, students develop the knowledge and professional competencies sought by healthcare employers and graduate programs.

Evidence of a graduate's level of preparation will be found in the student's ability to demonstrate the following program learning outcomes. Graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Apply foundational knowledge of biological, physical, and health sciences to understand human health, disease, wellness, and healthcare delivery.
2. Analyze and interpret scientific evidence and health-related data to support informed decision-making in healthcare and health sciences settings.
3. Demonstrate effective written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills appropriate for professional, academic, and healthcare environments.
4. Evaluate ethical, legal, cultural, and societal influences on health outcomes and healthcare delivery in local, national, and global communities.
5. Collaborate effectively within interdisciplinary teams while demonstrating professionalism, leadership, and cultural responsiveness.
6. Apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills to address complex health and healthcare challenges.
7. Demonstrate competency in scientific inquiry and research methods, including the ability to locate, evaluate, and communicate scientific information.
8. Develop and implement a professional preparation plan that aligns academic experiences, experiential learning opportunities, and career goals.

Because the Health Sciences major supports multiple healthcare career pathways, no single licensure or certification examination is required for all graduates.

The program outcomes are aligned with widely recognized competencies emphasized across healthcare professions and health sciences education. These competencies include scientific literacy, evidence-based practice, ethical reasoning, communication, teamwork, cultural competence, professionalism, and lifelong learning. The program reflects expectations and recommendations identified by professional organizations and education associations, including the Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions (ASAHP), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), and the American Public Health Association (APHA). Through this alignment, the program prepares graduates to meet the evolving needs of healthcare systems regionally and nationally.

Program Requirements and Curriculum

Through its combination of rigorous scientific coursework, flexible career-focused pathways, high-impact educational practices, and experiential learning opportunities, the B.S. in Health Sciences provides students with comprehensive preparation for entry into healthcare professions, professional and graduate programs, and a variety of health-related careers. The program reflects UW-Platteville's commitment to applied learning, student success, and workforce development in the growing healthcare sector. The proposed 65-credit major area of study contains three curricular components:

1. *Biology Core (32-credit).* Coursework includes 11 credits of prerequisites or support courses and 21 credits of biology coursework.
2. *Health Sciences Core (10 credits).* This required core consists of the human anatomy and physiology coursework sequence vital to students pursuing healthcare and health-related careers.
3. *Health Sciences Electives (23-credits).* These credits allow the students to tailor their major to specific healthcare career pathways.

Table 2: B.S. in Health Sciences Program Curriculum

Academic degree program or major course requirements:		
Biology Core (32 credits)		
Program prerequisites or support courses for Biology Core:		
CHEMSTRY 1140	General Chemistry I	4 credit(s)
CHEMSTRY 1240	General Chemistry II	4 credit(s)
MATH 1830	Elementary Statistics (MQR)	3 credit(s)
Biology coursework required for Biology Core:		
BIOLOGY 1020	BioQuest: Foundations for College Success	1 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 1650	The Unity of Life (NSW)	5 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 1750	The Diversity of Life	5 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 2420	Fundamentals of Biological Investigation	3 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 3330	Genetics	3 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 3450	Ecology and Evolution	3 credit(s)

BIOLOGY 4970	Senior Thesis	1 credit(s)
or BIOLOGY 4990	Senior Capstone Seminar	

Health Sciences Core (10 credits)

BIOLOGY 2140	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	5 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 2240	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	5 credit(s)

Health Sciences Electives (23 credits)

Choose all of the courses in one of the options A through E:

Option A

CHEMSTRY 3510	Organic Chemistry I Lab	1 credit(s)
CHEMSTRY 3540	Organic Chemistry I	4 credit(s)
CHEMSTRY 4610	General Biochemistry Lab	1 credit(s)
CHEMSTRY 4630	General Biochemistry	3 credit(s)

Option B

PHYSICS 1350	Introductory Physics I	5 credit(s)
PHYSICS 1450	Introductory Physics II	5 credit(s)

Option C

PHYSICS 2240	General Physics I	4 credit(s)
PHYSICS 2340	General Physics II	4 credit(s)

Option D

PSYCHLGY 1130	General Psychology	3 credit(s)
PSYCHLGY 2730	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3 credit(s)
or PSYCHLGY 2930	Human Behavior in the Social Environment	
SOCIOLGY 1030	Introduction to Sociology	3 credit(s)

Option E

HHP 3020	Physiology of Exercise	4 credit(s)
HHP 3720	Biomechanical Kinesiology	4 credit(s)
HHP 3950	Human Nutrition	3 credit(s)

Additional Electives to complete this component:

To complete the 23 required credits in the elective category, students may select any biology course above the 2000 level (except BIOLOGY 2340 or BIOLOGY 4010) electives in addition to completing one of the options A through E.	12-15 credit(s)
Total	65 credit(s)

Core general education courses required for graduation:

CL-L	ENGL 1230 (CL-L)	3 credit(s)
CL-C	Oral Communication (CL-C)	3 credit(s)
CP-C	Civics (CP-C)	3 credit(s)
CP-P	Historical Perspectives (CP-P)	3 credit(s)
HA-H	Humanities (HA-H)	3 credit(s)
HA-A	Arts (HA-A)	3 credit(s)
MQR	Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning (MQR)	3 credit(s)

NSWL (1)	Natural Science with Lab (NSWL)	4 credit(s)
NSW-W	Wellness (NSW-W)	1 credit(s)
NSW-WA	Physical Activity (NSW-WA)	1 credit(s)
SBS	Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) – Two courses in different disciplines	6 credit(s)
Total		33 credit(s)
Bachelor of Science requirements for graduation:		
NSWL (2)	Natural Science with Lab (NSWL) – Different discipline *Included in Major	4 credit(s)
MQR/NS/SBS	Additional course in CGER categories of MQR/NS/SBS	3 credit(s)
World Language	One Semester of a World Language or HS Equivalent	0-4 credit(s)
Electives to reach total credits of 120 credits		11-15 credit(s)
Total		22 credit(s)
Total Credits		**120 credits**

Collaborative Nature of the Program

The B.S. in Health Sciences is built upon UW-Platteville's longstanding commitment to collaborations across academic disciplines and institutional partners. As a regional comprehensive university, UW-Platteville emphasizes interdisciplinary collaborations to support student success, workforce readiness, and the evolving needs of the healthcare and public health sectors. The Health Sciences major is housed within the Department of Biology but draws upon coursework, expertise, and resources from multiple academic units across campus, including the Departments of Chemistry, Engineering Physics, History and Social Sciences, Human Health and Performance, and Psychology. These partnerships provide students with a strong foundation in the biological, physical, behavioral, and social sciences that underpin modern healthcare and health practices. Faculty from multiple disciplines contribute to student advising, career exploration, applied learning experiences, and community engagement opportunities, ensuring that students are well prepared for a variety of professional pathways.

The Health Sciences program is strengthened by several established partnerships with University of Wisconsin universities that provide direct pathways into high-demand healthcare professions, including:

- **UW-Madison Physician Assistant Program – Platteville Distance Campus:** UW-Platteville serves as the undergraduate partner and host site for the UW-Madison Physician Assistant Program's Platteville Distant Campus. This partnership provides qualified students who complete a bachelor's degree with a unique opportunity to pursue an M.S. in physician assistant education while remaining in

Southwest Wisconsin and strengthens the regional healthcare workforce pipeline through collaborative education and clinical training opportunities.

- **UW-Platteville and UW-Oshkosh Nursing Partnership:** A dual-degree pathway that allows students to complete a Bachelor of Science degree from UW-Platteville and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) through UW-Oshkosh in an accelerated four-year timeframe.
- **UW-Platteville and UW-Milwaukee Doctor of Physical Therapy Partnership:** A 3+3 pathway that enables students to earn a bachelor's degree from UW-Platteville and a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from UW-Milwaukee in six years.

UW-Platteville also maintains partnerships with non-UW institutions and healthcare organizations that expand educational and career opportunities for students. One example is the 3+3 articulation agreement with Palmer College of Chiropractic (Davenport, IA), that allows students to complete a bachelor's degree from UW-Platteville and a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in six years. Additionally, the biology department maintains strong relationships with regional hospitals, clinics, rehabilitation centers, public health agencies, and other healthcare organizations.

In addition to existing partnerships, UW-Platteville is actively exploring and developing new collaborations with institutions within the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS). These partnerships will create seamless transfer pathways, expand educational opportunities in emerging healthcare fields, and strengthen workforce development efforts throughout the region.

Projected Time to Degree

This program can be completed in four years of full-time enrollment at 15 credits per semester.

Accreditation

As a baccalaureate degree program, the B.S. in Health Sciences will be covered under UW-Platteville's institutional accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission. No other special accreditation is required.

PROGRAM JUSTIFICATION

Rationale

The B.S. in Health Sciences program is the result of sustained institutional planning, growing student interest in healthcare careers, regional workforce needs, and ongoing engagement with healthcare partners through Southwest Wisconsin. The program is an elevation of the existing Health Sciences emphasis within the Biology major and represents a natural evolution of a successful and growing curricular pathway. As a standalone major

it will complement the existing Biology degree while providing a clearer health-related pathway for prospective students and will strengthen recruitment efforts within the current recruitment pool. It is expected to have minimal impact on enrollments in existing academic programs, as the projected enrollments are anticipated to come from students who would otherwise pursue the existing Health Sciences emphasis within the Biology major. Approximately two-thirds of current UW-Platteville biology students indicate an interest in healthcare professions. While Wisconsin and the nation face persistent shortages across numerous healthcare occupations, particularly in rural communities – nearly 28% of the state's population is rural – but only around 11% of Wisconsin's physicians practice in rural areas[3]. Through healthcare workforce summits, advisory discussions, and partnerships with healthcare organizations, UW-Platteville has identified the need for an interdisciplinary program that combines foundational science coursework with healthcare-focused preparation and career exploration opportunities. Workforce dollars allotted to UW-Platteville in the 2024 biennium support two health sciences positions, one full-time health sciences program manager and one full-time health sciences faculty position. This investment of state dollars to increase the healthcare workforce has led to the capacity building that makes this elevation possible.

The program aligns closely with the UW-Platteville Strategic Plan 2025-31[4] and the university's mission of providing accessible, applied hands-on, career-focused education[5]. Specifically, it advances Strategic Objective 1: Foster Transformative Teaching and Learning through experiential learning, undergraduate research, and career-focused preparation. The curriculum supports Strategy 1.3: Provide Hands-On Applied Learning, as well as Strategy 1.4: Promote Curricular Excellence and Innovation by offering an interdisciplinary, workforce-responsive curriculum. The program also advances Strategic Objective 2: Achieve Optimal Enrollment by expanding academic pathways in a high-demand field and supporting recruitment and retention of students interested in healthcare careers. Furthermore, the major reflects the university's values of Access and Success, Innovation, and Stewardship of Place by expanding opportunities for students from rural communities and contributing to the health and well-being of the region.

Institution and Universities of Wisconsin Program Array

The University of Wisconsin–Platteville is also proposing a Bachelor of Science in Public Health. While both programs contribute to healthcare workforce development, they serve distinct educational and career pathways. The B.S. in Health Sciences is designed for students pursuing clinical healthcare professions and professional credentialing programs,

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[3] Governor's Task Force on the Healthcare Workforce Report. (2024). *Wisconsin Department of Health Services.* Retrieved from https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hc-workforce/gov-taskforce-hcwf-report-2024.pdf (July 2026)

[4] University of Wisconsin-Platteville. *2025-2031 Strategic Plan.* Retrieved at https://www.uwplatt.edu/strategic-plan (July 2026)

[5] University of Wisconsin-Platteville. *Mission.* https://www.uwplatt.edu/mission-and-vision (July 2026)

whereas the B.S. in Public Health prepares students for careers and graduate study in areas such as community health, health promotion, healthcare administration, occupational health and safety, and public health management. In its array, UW-Platteville also has a Health Sciences emphasis within its B.S. in Chemistry, that prepares students for health care fields that may require a strong chemistry background. Together, these complementary programs will expand student opportunities, strengthen retention, and enhance the healthcare workforce pipeline serving Wisconsin and the surrounding region.

Across the Universities of Wisconsin, five UW universities offer baccalaureate degrees in similar CIP codes or areas of study. These include the UW-Whitewater B.A. and B.S. in Undeclared Major Pre-Health Professions (CIP 51.000), UW-River Falls B.S. in Biomedical & Health Sciences (CIP 26.0102), UW-Oshkosh B.S. in Biomedical Sciences (CIP 26.0102), UW-Parkside B.S. in Applied Health Sciences (CIP 51.9999), and UW-Stevens Point B.S. in Health Sciences and Wellness (CIP 51.9999). There are also two UW universities offering baccalaureate degrees with concentrations/emphases in Health Sciences, UW-Green Bay Emphasis in Health Science within their B.S. in Human Biology (CIP 26.0102) and UW-Milwaukee with a Health Science concentration/emphasis within their B.S. in Biomedical Sciences (CIP 51.1005)[6].

Need as Suggested by Student Demand

Institutional data demonstrate sustained and growing student interest in healthcare professions. Enrollment in UW-Platteville's Biology major increased from 276 students in Fall 2020 to 344 students in Fall 2025, representing growth of 24.6%. In addition, approximately 67% of Biology students identify healthcare professions as their primary career interest.

Student demand is further evidenced through participation in healthcare-focused advising, undergraduate research, career exploration activities, and Medical Exploration Day, which annually attracts approximately 100 high school students interested in healthcare careers from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa[7]. Advising discussions with current and prospective students consistently indicate interest in a dedicated Health Sciences major that more clearly reflects student career aspirations while maintaining flexibility to pursue multiple healthcare pathways.

Need as Suggested by Market Demand

The B.S. in Health Sciences program at the UW-Platteville is a strategic response to the growing healthcare needs in Southwest Wisconsin and rural areas across the state. The demand for healthcare professionals in Wisconsin and nationally continues to surge, driven

[6] Universities of Wisconsin Office of Policy Analysis and Research. *Subdegree Programs.* Retrieved at https://www.wisconsin.edu/opar-frontier/subdegree-programs/ (July 2026).

[7] University of Wisconsin-Platteville. (2025). *UW-Platteville hosts Medical Exploration Day*. Retrieved at https://www.uwplatt.edu/news/uw-platteville-hosts-medical-exploration-day (July 2026)

by an aging population, increased prevalence of chronic diseases, and evolving healthcare delivery models. The state's population over age 65 is expected to grow by 45% between 2020 and 2040 with nearly one-in-four Wisconsinites at retirement age by 2030[8].

Counties in Southwest Wisconsin, including Grant, Crawford, Lafayette, and Vernon, contain federally designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) as determined by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)[9] and experience ongoing recruitment challenges. According to the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, healthcare practitioners and technical occupations are projected to grow by 9.5% from 2022 to 2032, resulting in approximately 12,378 annual job openings in Wisconsin, 478 of which will be in the southwest region of the state[10]. Further, the healthcare support occupations category is expected to see even more rapid growth, with a projected increase of 12.2% over the same period, translating to about 23,501 annual job openings across the state with 878 in the southwest region[10]. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projections indicate continued growth in occupations such as physician assistant (20%), physical therapists (11%), occupational therapists, medical and health services managers (14%), and clinical laboratory technologists and technicians (2%)[11].

Institutional studies and stakeholder engagement activities further support market demand for the proposed program. UW-Platteville hosted and facilitated regional healthcare workforce summits in 2017, 2021, and 2023 that each time, brought together 50-70 attendees including healthcare administrators, public health officials, community health advocates, educational partners, and employers to identify workforce needs and opportunities for collaborations[12,13,14]. Stakeholders have consistently identified the need for additional educational pathways that prepare students for healthcare professions while increasing the supply of qualified professionals serving rural communities. The proposed

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[8] Governor's Task Force on the Healthcare Workforce Report. (2024). *Wisconsin Department of Health Services.* Retrieved from https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hc-workforce/gov-taskforce-hcwf-report-2024.pdf

[9] Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Workforce, *Workforce Shortage Areas*. Retrieved at https://bhw.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation/scoring

[10] Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. *Wisconsin Long Term Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032*. Retrieved at https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/query (July 2026)

[11] Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. Retrieved at https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare.home.htm (July *2026*)

[12] All In Wisconsin. *UW-Platteville Leads Summit to Address Rural Health Care Needs.* Retrieved at https://share.google/LODrzqNe9R7nHUW1I (July 2026).

[13] University of Wisconsin-Platteville News. *UW-Platteville, UW-Madison Continue Preparations for Launch of Physician Assistant Partnership.* Retrieved at https://share.google/0CUOiQujno4M1AhjK (July 2026).

[14] University of Wisconsin-Platteville News. *Summit Focuses on Rural Health Care Needs, Collaborations.* Retrieved at https://share.google/Ffsv4Ap3aOwddkh3K (July 2026).

Health Sciences major addresses these workforce needs by providing students with a flexible academic foundation that supports entry into graduate and professional healthcare programs as well as selected healthcare-related careers. By creating a dedicated Health Sciences major, UW-Platteville will strengthen student success, support enrollment growth, and contribute to addressing critical healthcare workforce needs throughout Wisconsin and the broader region.

University of Wisconsin - Platteville
Cost and Revenue Projections For Newly Proposed Program

	Items	Projections					
		2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	
I	**Enrollment (New Student) Headcount**	20	25	30	35	40	
	Enrollment (Continuing Student) Headcount	0	15	30	40	46	
	Enrollment (New Student) FTE	20	25	30	35	40	
	Enrollment (Continuing Student) FTE	0	15	30	40	46	
II	**Total New Credit Hours**	220	275	330	385	440	all take 11cr in year 1; 16 cr yr2; 9 cr yr 3; 10 cr yr 4
	Existing Credit Hours	0	240	401	571	677	
III	**FTE of New Faculty/Instructional Staff**	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	
	FTE of Current Fac/IAS	0	0	0	0	0	
	FTE of New Admin Staff	0	0	0	0	0.25	
	FTE Current Admin Staff	0	0	0	0	0	
IV	**Revenues**						
	Tuition	$81,826	$191,548	$271,980	$355,549	$415,582	per credit based on 75% WI, 21%IL/IA, 2% MN, 2% NR
	Fees (indicate type)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	Program Revenue (Grants)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	Program Revenue - Other	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	GPR (re)allocation	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	Total Revenue	**$81,826**	**$191,548**	**$271,980**	**$355,549**	**$415,582**	
V	**Expenses**						
	Salaries plus Fringes						
	Faculty Salary	$0	$0	$0	$32,500	$33,150	
	Instuctional Academic Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	Administrative and Student Support Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$11,250	
	Other Staff - lab	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	Fringe Faculty and Academic Staff	$0	$0	$0	$13,098	$17,893	
	Fringe University Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	Fringe Other Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	
	Facilities and Capital Equipment						
	University buildings and space	0	0	0	0	0	
	Capital Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	
	Operations	0	0	0	0	0	
	Other Expenses						
	Other (please list)						
	Other (please list)						
	Total Expenses	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$45,598**	**$62,293**	
	Net Revenue	**$81,826**	**$191,548**	**$271,980**	**$309,952**	**$353,289**	

Provost's Signature: **Date:**

Signed by:
21AD06FBF849436...
7/23/2026 | 9:50 AM CDT

Chief Business Officer's Signature: **Date:**

Signed by:
Jara Steinmetz
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7/23/2026 | 9:32 AM CDT

COST AND REVENUE PROJECTIONS NARRATIVE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–PLATTEVILLE
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

The University of Wisconsin–Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Health Sciences. The proposed program elevates the existing Health Sciences emphasis within the Biology major to a standalone degree, reflecting strong student demand and growing workforce needs in healthcare. Graduates of the B.S. in Health Sciences will be prepared to pursue professions and professional pathways for clinical healthcare fields, including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and related health professions as well as allied health careers that require a strong foundation in biological sciences. The curriculum consists of 120 credits, including a Biology Core, Health Sciences Core, and elective coursework that allows students to tailor their educational preparation to specific healthcare careers and pathways.

The proposed B.S. in Health Sciences builds upon an established academic program that is delivered through existing coursework, and leveraging current faculty expertise, facilities, advising structures, and established partnerships. The program supports the Universities of Wisconsin workforce development mission by expanding educational opportunities that address healthcare workforce shortages, particularly in rural Southwest Wisconsin, while strengthening pathways into healthcare professions.

Budget impacts are expected to be modest. The program will operate under the university's standard undergraduate tuition structure and rely primarily on existing academic resources. To support anticipated enrollment growth and ensure high-quality student support, the university has utilized workforce development (WFD) funding to hire a new faculty position and a Health Sciences Program Manager position. These investments will help meet increased teaching, advising, recruitment, and student success needs associated with the program while enhancing the university's capacity to serve students pursuing healthcare careers. Budget projections, therefore, reflect a combination of existing instructional capacity and targeted workforce development investments rather than the creation of extensive new infrastructure or coursework.

COST REVENUE NARRATIVE

Section I – Enrollment

The proposed B.S. in Health Sciences is an elevation of an existing emphasis within the Biology major. In Fall 2025, 120 students were enrolled in this emphasis, demonstrating

strong student interest and demand. It is believed that the new degree program will serve as an effective recruitment tool for students interested in healthcare and health-related careers, helping to attract new students to the university.

Based on the department's strong yearly average retention rate of approximately 75%, some attrition is expected over time; however, through comprehensive advising and student support services, strong overall student persistence and success are anticipated. These projections are supported by the demonstrated outcomes and continued growth of the current Health Sciences emphasis within the Biology major. As shown in Table 1, over the first five-year period, the program is projected to enroll 150 new students who will generate additional tuition revenue.

Table 1: Five-Year Enrollment for Tuition Revenue Projections by Headcount

Students/Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
New Students	20	25	30	35	40
Continuing Students	0	15	30	40	46
Total Enrollment	20	35	60	75	86

Section II – Credit Hours

Credit-hour projections for the B.S. in Health Sciences are based solely on credits attributable to major/program requirements and exclude general education coursework. For purposes of these calculations, new credit hours are defined as credits generated by students entering the program in a given academic year, while existing credit hours are defined as credits generated by continuing students who persist and progress through the curriculum.

Credit-hour estimates were calculated using the biology specific credits required at each level of the program: approximately 11 credits in Year 1, 16 credits in Year 2, 9 credits in Year 3, and 10 credits in Year 4. New credit hours were calculated by multiplying the number of newly enrolled students by the major-specific credits taken in the first year of the program. Existing credit hours were calculated by multiplying the number of continuing students at each level by the major-specific credits associated with that level and then summing those totals across all cohorts.

For example, in Year 1, 20 new students are anticipated to generate 220 new credit hours (20 students × 11 major-specific credits). As students progress through the curriculum, continuing students generate additional credit hours through upper-level Health Sciences coursework. Based on the enrollment growth projections outlined in Section I and assuming a 75% retention rate each year. In year 5, the program is projected to generate approximately 440 new credit hours and 677 existing credit hours, for a total of 1,117 major-specific credit hours.

Section III – Faculty and Staff Appointments

The proposed program represents the elevation of an existing emphasis; therefore, the curriculum is already established, and all required courses are currently offered on a regular rotation. As a result, no new faculty or staff appointments are required to implement the program. Existing faculty and instructional staff will deliver the curriculum using current resources and appointments. In addition, faculty and staff positions added through Workforce Development (WFD) funding will provide additional capacity to help accommodate increased enrollment demand in the short term.

Based on enrollment projections, a modest increase in instructional faculty/staff FTE may be required in Years 4 and 5 to support additional course sections and advising responsibilities. These projected additions are reflected in the staffing plan and are contingent upon actual enrollment growth. If enrollment projections are not realized, no additional faculty or staff appointments will be necessary.

UW-Platteville utilizes a dispersed advising model, and current advising resources are expected to be adequate during Years 1-4 of the program. However, if enrollment grows as projected, additional advising support may be needed beginning in Year 5. Advising staffing levels will be evaluated and adjusted based on actual enrollment trends and student demand.

No redirected faculty or staff appointments are required to implement the program. Existing appointments already support the courses included in the curriculum. Any future increases in instructional or advising capacity would be driven by enrollment growth rather than the reallocation of existing positions. Projected net program revenues are expected to be sufficient to support any additional faculty, instructional staff, or advising resources that may be required.

Section IV – Program Revenues

Tuition

Students enrolled in the B.S. in Health Science will be charged standard undergraduate tuition and fees in accordance with UW-Platteville tuition schedules. For purposes of revenue projections, student credit hours are assumed to be distributed as follows: 77% Wisconsin & Minnesota residents ($317.98 per credit), 21% Illinois/Iowa residents ($536.92 per credit), and 2% nonresident students ($717.78 per credit). These residency assumptions are based on current and recent historical enrollment patterns at UW–Platteville[1].

[1] UW-Platteville Internal Enrollment Management Dashboard. Retrieved July 2026.

Tuition revenue projections were calculated by multiplying the projected student credit hours generated by new and continuing students (as reported in Section I) by the tuition rate associated with the distribution of students based on residency. This approach reflects the expected mix of student residency classifications and provides a reasonable estimate of tuition revenue attributable to the program.

Fees

Certain courses may include special course fees, consistent with UW System Administrative Policy 825, *Special Course Fees*, to cover costs such as instructional materials, online learning resources, required field trips, transportation, admissions, or project materials retained by students.

Program Revenues and GPR

No additional grants, gifts, extramural funding sources, or non-tuition program revenues are planned or budgeted to support the B.S. in Health Sciences. Likewise, no new General Purpose Revenue (GPR) allocations or redirections are anticipated for implementation of the program. The B.S. in Health Sciences is expected to be supported through existing institutional resources and tuition revenue generated by enrolled students.

Section V – Program Expenses

This proposal elevates an existing emphasis to a stand-alone program and does not require the development of new courses. Because the curriculum, instructional infrastructure, and support resources are already in place, the program can be implemented efficiently with minimal additional expense.

Salary and Fringe

Existing faculty and staff resources will support the program during the initial years of implementation. However, to accommodate potential enrollment growth, the budget includes a 0.50 FTE faculty position in Years 4 and 5, with salary and fringe estimates based on current institutional rates and an assumed 2% salary increase in Year 5.

In addition, the university has secured workforce development funding to support a new faculty position and a Health Sciences Program Manager position. These positions will help address both instructional and advising needs associated with increased enrollment and will provide additional capacity to support student success. Personnel projections are consistent with the faculty and staff FTE allocations described in Section III.

Facilities and Capital Equipment

No new facilities, renovations, or capital equipment are required. Existing classrooms, laboratories, technology infrastructure, and other university resources are sufficient to support projected enrollment levels. Should enrollment grow beyond current

projections, any future facility or equipment needs would be addressed through the university's normal planning and budgeting processes.

Other Expenses

No significant additional direct or indirect expenses are anticipated. Existing university resources will support routine operational needs, including library services, technology support, marketing, and administration. Any future program enhancements or reinvestments associated with enrollment growth will be addressed through standard budget planning processes.

Section VI – Net Revenue

The B.S. in Health Sciences is projected to generate positive net revenue beginning in Year 1. The program is expected to produce net revenues of $81,826 in Year 1, $191,548 in Year 2, $271,980 in Year 3, $309,952 in Year 4, and $353,289 in Year 5.

As net revenues increase with enrollment growth, excess funds will be reinvested to support the continued development and quality of the program. Reinvestment priorities may include faculty and instructional support, student success initiatives, laboratory and instructional resources, clinical and community partnerships, marketing and recruitment efforts, and other strategic investments that enhance the student experience and strengthen the university's health sciences offerings. These reinvestments will help ensure the long-term sustainability and growth of the program while supporting the university's mission and strategic priorities.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PLATTEVILLE

July 23, 2026

Interim President Renée Wachter
Universities of Wisconsin
1720 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Dr
Madison, WI 53706

Re: Provost Letter of Support for Implementation of a B.S. in Health Sciences

Dear President Wachter:

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville is pleased to request authorization to implement a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences. The Notice of Intent for this major was circulated to the Universities of Wisconsin universities in January 2025. No concerns were raised by any UW university. The program has been unanimously approved by all UW-Platteville governance bodies including the budget commission, academic planning council, university undergraduate and graduate curriculum commission, and faculty senate.

Students in the Health Sciences program will take core courses in biology and electives in health care to tailor their major to a specific healthcare career. Graduates will be prepared to meet healthcare industry needs and to pursue careers in clinical healthcare fields, as well as related health professions that require a strong foundation in biological sciences.

The Department of Biology has the necessary resources to offer this program, and it will be assessed according to the university's governance procedures.

As Provost, I endorse this program and recommend it to the Board of Regents for adoption.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laura K. Reynolds
Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

cc: Dr. Wayne Weber, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

2400 Ullsvik Hall | 1 University Plaza Stop 1 | Platteville WI 53818-3099
608.342.1261 | www.uwplatt.edu/leadership

Education Committee **Item C.3.**
August 20, 2026

NEW PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION (IMPLEMENTATION) BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–PLATTEVILLE

REQUESTED ACTION

Adoption of Resolution C.3., authorizing the implementation of the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Public Health at the University of Wisconsin–Platteville.

Resolution C.3. That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Platteville and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science in Public Health program at the University of Wisconsin–Platteville.

SUMMARY

The University of Wisconsin–Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Public Health. The UW-Platteville B.S. in Public Health is a new interdisciplinary degree program designed to address growing regional and statewide workforce needs. It will be a 120-credit-hour degree program combining 33 credits of Core General Education Requirements, 7 to 11 credits of Bachelor of Science course requirements, 48 to 50 credits of public health coursework, and 26 to 32 credits of elective coursework. The underlying model of the program is that students will engage deeply with an interdisciplinary public health core curriculum and then choose an emphasis area that covers the breadth of the field and allows for focus within a distinct career pathway. For students enrolled in this program, standard undergraduate tuition and fee rates will apply. Demand for the program in the current recruitment pool is demonstrated by both current student interest as well as regional and national workforce need, where healthcare support occupations are projected to grow in Southwest Wisconsin by 11% from 2022 to 2032[1] . UW-Platteville's Biology program has increased substantially in recent years, particularly among students pursuing health-related careers, demonstrating strong student demand for additional healthcare-focused academic programming. Graduates of the B.S. in Public Health will be

[1] Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. *Wisconsin Long Term Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032*. Retrieved at https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/query (July 2026)

prepared for careers in UW-Platteville's rural community with public health organizations and related health services fields, as well as entry into professional programs of study. The B.S. in Public Health aligns with the Universities of Wisconsin workforce development priorities and strengthens UW-Platteville's ability to serve the healthcare and public health needs of Southwest Wisconsin and the surrounding region.

Presenter

- Dr. Laura Reynolds, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UW-Platteville

BACKGROUND

This proposal is presented in accord with UW System Administrative Policy 102: Policy on University of Wisconsin System Array Management: Program Planning, Delivery, Review, and Reporting (Revised August 2023), available at https://www.wisconsin.edu/uw-policies/uw-system-administrative-policies/policy-on-university-of-wisconsin-system-array-management-program-planning-delivery-review-and-reporting-2/).

Information on recent academic program changes is available on the program monitoring dashboard at https://www.wisconsin.edu/opar-frontier/uws-academic-program-changes/.

Related Policies

- Regent Policy Document 4-12: Academic Program Planning, Review, and Approval in the University of Wisconsin System

- UW System Administrative Policy 102: Policy on University of Wisconsin System Array Management: Program Planning, Delivery, Review, and Reporting

ATTACHMENTS

A) Request for Authorization to Implement
B) Cost and Revenue Projections Worksheet
C) Cost and Revenue Projections Narrative
D) Provost's Letter

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO IMPLEMENT A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH AT UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–PLATTEVILLE PREPARED BY UW-PLATTEVILLE

ABSTRACT

The University of Wisconsin–Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Public Health. The UW-Platteville B.S. in Public Health is a new interdisciplinary degree program designed to address growing regional and statewide workforce needs. It will be a 120-credit-hour degree program combining 33 credits of Core General Education Requirements, 7 to 11 credits of Bachelor of Science course requirements, 48 to 50 credits of public health coursework, and 26 to 32 credits of elective coursework. The underlying model of the program is that students will engage deeply with an interdisciplinary public health core curriculum and then choose an emphasis area that covers the breadth of the field and allows for focus within a distinct career pathway. For students enrolled in this program, standard undergraduate tuition and fee rates will apply. Demand for the program in the current recruitment pool is demonstrated by both current student interest as well as regional and national workforce need, where healthcare support occupations are projected to grow in Southwest Wisconsin by 11% from 2022 to 2032[1] . UW-Platteville's Biology program has increased substantially in recent years, particularly among students pursuing health-related careers, demonstrating strong student demand for additional healthcare-focused academic programming. Graduates of the B.S. in Public Health will be prepared for careers in UW-Platteville's rural community with public health organizations and related health services fields, as well as entry into professional programs of study. The B.S. in Public Health aligns with the Universities of Wisconsin workforce development priorities and strengthens UW-Platteville's ability to serve the healthcare and public health needs of Southwest Wisconsin and the surrounding region.

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION

University Name
University of Wisconsin–Platteville

[1] Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. *Wisconsin Long Term Occupational Employment Projections, 2022-2032*. Retrieved at https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/query (July 2026)

Title of Proposed Academic Program
Public Health

Degree Designation
Bachelor of Science (B.S)

Proposed Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) Code
51.2201 – Public Health, General (MPH, DPH)

Mode of Delivery
Single institution; in-person delivery

Department or Functional Equivalent
Department of Biology

College, School, or Functional Equivalent
College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture

Proposed Date of Implementation
September 2027

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Overview of the Program

The proposed Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Public Health is a 120-credit undergraduate degree designed to prepare students for careers in public health and related fields, as well as entry into graduate programs. The program responds to increasing workforce demand for professionals who can address population health challenges, promote disease prevention, improve community well-being, and support healthcare systems, particularly in rural and underserved communities.

The curriculum combines a strong interdisciplinary public health core with specialized coursework that allows students to pursue individualized career pathways. Students complete 33 credits of Core General Education Requirements, 7 to 11 credits of Bachelor of Science coursework, 48 to 50 credits within the major that includes a 23-credit Public Health Core, a 1 to 3-credit senior capstone experience, and a choice of accompanying 24-credit minor, and 26 to 32 electives to complete the 120-credit degree requirement which can include an additional complementary minor. The Public Health Core provides foundational knowledge in global public health, epidemiology, statistics, wellness, psychology, healthcare leadership, and safety and risk management. Students will also select an accompanying minor, consisting of 24 credits in an area aligned with their

career interests, including Biology, Health Promotion, Business Administration, Safety Engineering Management, or Psychology. For a student's remaining electives, they may choose to minor in another program, which would allow students to develop both broad public health competencies and specialized expertise relevant to their intended profession.

The curriculum incorporates High-Impact Practices (HIPs) that enhance student engagement, promote academic success, and strengthen preparation for public health careers and professional study. Students are required to take a culminating senior capstone experiential learning course. This requirement can be fulfilled through an approved internship, capstone project, senior thesis, seminar, or cooperative education experience. This provides opportunities for students to apply public health knowledge in professional settings and demonstrate integration of concepts across the curriculum. Additional experiential learning opportunities include undergraduate research, community-based projects, service-learning activities, public health outreach initiatives, leadership development experiences, and collaborations with regional healthcare and public health partners. Faculty advisors will work closely with students to identify and pursue experiences that align with their intended career pathways and expectations of their chosen professional programs. These experiences reflect UW-Platteville's commitment to applied learning with hands-on, career-focused education that prepares graduates to address complex public health challenges.

Projected Enrollments and Graduates by Year Five

Enrollment projections for the proposed B.S. in Public Health were developed using institutional enrollment data, advising records, and participation in health-related academic programs. Particular attention was given to the growing number of students interested in health-related careers. Growing awareness of public health careers following the COVID-19 pandemic has further increased student interest in population health, positioning the program to support both student demand and regional workforce needs.

Table 1 represents enrollment and graduation projections for students entering the program over the first five years. Continuing student projection for Year 1 includes current UW-Platteville students seeking a public health pathway. As shown in Table 1, enrollment is projected to increase steadily during the first five years as students are recruited directly into the program. The projections incorporate a yearly retention rate of 75% based on current institutional retention data of the Biology major. Over the five-year period, the program is projected to enroll 60 new students and graduate 14 students.

Table 1: Five-Year Enrollment and Completion Projections by Headcount

Students/Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
New Students	6	9	12	15	18
Continuing Students	6	9	14	17	21
Total Enrollment	12	18	26	32	39
Graduating Students	0	0	3	4	7

Tuition Structure

For students enrolled in the B.S. in Public Health program, standard undergraduate tuition and fee rates will apply in accordance with UW System Administrative Policy 805, *Tuition and Fee Policies for Credit Instruction.* For the 2026-27 academic year, a full-time student enrolled in 12-18 credits per semester with:

- in-state residency has a tuition and fee total of $4,613.26 per semester with $3,815.76 attributable to tuition, $688.00 attributable to segregated fees, and $109.50 attributable to textbook rental fees.
- Iowa or Illinois residency is eligible for the Tuition Advantage program and has a tuition and fee total of $7,240.50 with $6,443.00 attributable to tuition, $688.00 attributable to segregated fees, and $109.50 attributable to textbook rental.
- nonresidential status has a tuition and fee total of $9,410.86 with $8,613.36 for attributable to tuition, $688.00 attributable to segregated fees, and $109.50 attributable to textbook rental.

Additionally, in accordance with UW System Administrative Policy 825, *Special Course Fees*, some individual courses may charge additional course fees, such as access fees for online materials, transportation and admission costs incurred for required field trips for course instruction, and for materials for projects that result in tangible products retained by the students in a course.

Student Learning Outcomes and Program Objectives

The B.S. in Public Health program is designed to prepare students to understand, assess, and address the complex factors that influence health and well-being at the population level. Through interdisciplinary coursework, applied learning experiences, and community engagement, students develop the knowledge, skills, and professional competencies needed to promote health, prevent disease, reduce health disparities, and improve quality of life in a variety of community settings.

Evidence of a graduate's level of preparation will be found in the student's ability to demonstrate the following program learning outcomes. Graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Apply foundational concepts from public health, epidemiology, statistics, psychology, health promotion, occupational health and safety, and healthcare systems to analyze population health issues.
2. Assess the biological, environmental, behavioral, social, and economic determinants that influence health outcomes in local, national, and global communities.
3. Collect, analyze, interpret, and communicate public health data to support evidence-based decision making and program planning.
4. Design, implement, and evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs that address community and population health needs.
5. Communicate effectively with professional, community, and public audiences using culturally appropriate and evidence-based approaches.
6. Demonstrate leadership, collaboration, and problem-solving skills while working within interdisciplinary teams and community partnerships.
7. Evaluate ethical, legal, policy, and equity considerations that affect public health practice and healthcare delivery.
8. Apply public health principles to address emerging health challenges and improve the health and well-being of diverse populations.
9. Integrate classroom knowledge with experiential learning through internships, capstone projects, research experiences, and community engagement activities.
10. Develop a personalized professional preparation plan that aligns academic experiences, experiential learning opportunities, and career goals within public health and related professions.

The Public Health major will prepare students for community health careers in organizations such nonprofit agencies, public health agencies, governmental health departments, and healthcare systems. Graduates will also be well prepared for graduate study in public health and related disciplines.

Because the Public Health major supports multiple career pathways, no single licensure or certification examination is required for all graduates. Faculty advisors work closely with students to ensure they complete prerequisite coursework, experiential learning opportunities, and other requirements associated with their intended healthcare profession.

The program outcomes are aligned with widely recognized competencies identified by leading public health organizations, including the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), and the American Public Health Association (APHA).

Program Requirements and Curriculum

Through its interdisciplinary design, the proposed Public Health program reflects the complex and multifaceted nature of contemporary public health challenges. While the

program is grounded in the biological sciences through coursework in epidemiology and global public health, its success depends on integrating perspectives from across the university to prepare graduates for the varied workforce needs of the public health sector. Coursework from Health and Human Performance provides a foundation in wellness, health promotion, and community health; Psychology contributes critical insights into behavioral health, health psychology, and the social determinants that shape health outcomes; Business Administration prepares students with skills in leadership, management, healthcare administration, and organizational effectiveness; Applied Engineering Technology Management offers perspectives on occupational safety, risk management, and workplace health; and Mathematics equips students with the statistical and analytical tools necessary for evidence-based decision-making.

The proposed 48 to 50-credit major area of study contains three curricular components:

1. *Public Health Core (23 credit).* This coursework includes 23 credits of public health foundational coursework relying on curriculum in biology, math, safety and risk management, psychology, wellness, and leadership and management for these students.
2. *Capstone (1-3 credits).* Students are required to take a culminating senior capstone experiential learning course.
3. *An Accompanying Minor (24 credits).* These credits allow students to tailor their major to specific healthcare career pathways.

Table 2: B.S. in Public Health Program Curriculum

Academic degree program or major course requirements:		
Public Health Core (23 credits)		
BIOLOGY 1230	Global Public Health	3 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 3630	Epidemiology: Host Agent Environment	3 credit(s)
MATH 1830	Elementary Statistics	3 credit(s)
AETM 1010	Principles of Safety and Risk Management	3 credit(s)
PSYCHLGY 1130	General Psychology	3 credit(s)
PSYCHLGY 4010	Health Psychology	3 credit(s)
HHP 2060	Foundations of Wellness	2 credit(s)
BUSADMIN 2330	Leadership and Management	3 credit(s)
Required Capstone or Internship Experience – Choose ONE of the following (1-3 credits):		
BIOLOGY 4660	Biology Internship Experience	1-3 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 4970	Senior Thesis	1 credit(s)
BIOLOGY 4990	Senior Capstone Seminar	1 credit(s)
HHP 4410	Seminar in Health Promotion	3 credit(s)
AETM 4690	Safety Engineering Management Internship	3 credit(s)

Accompanying Minor (24 credits)		
Option 1	Biology Minor	24 credit(s)
Option 2	Health Promotion Minor	24 credit(s)
Option 3	Business Administration Minor	24 credit(s)
Option 4	Safety Engineering Management Minor	24 credit(s)
Option 5	Psychology Minor	24 credit(s)
Total		48-50 credit(s)
Core general education courses required for graduation:		
CL-L	ENGL 1230 (CL-L)	3 credit(s)
CL-C	Oral Communication (CL-C)	3 credit(s)
CP-C	Civics (CP-C)	3 credit(s)
CP-P	Historical Perspectives (CP-P)	3 credit(s)
HA-H	Humanities (HA-H)	3 credit(s)
HA-A	Arts (HA-A)	3 credit(s)
MQR	Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning (MQR)	3 credit(s)
NSWL (1)	Natural Science with Lab (NSWL)	4 credit(s)
NSW-W	Wellness (NSW-W)	1 credit(s)
NSW-WA	Physical Activity (NSW-WA)	1 credit(s)
SBS	Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) – Two courses in different disciplines	6 credit(s)
Total		33 credit(s)
Bachelor of Science requirements for graduation:		
NSWL (2)	Natural Science with Lab (NSWL) – Different discipline *Included in Major	4 credit(s)
MQR/NS/SBS	Additional course in CGER categories of MQR/NS/SBS	3 credit(s)
World Language	One Semester of a World Language or HS Equivalent	0-4 credit(s)
Electives to reach total credits of 120 credits		26-32 credit(s)
Total		37-39 credit(s)
Total Credits		**120 credits**

Collaborative Nature of the Program

The B.S. in Public Health builds upon UW-Platteville's longstanding commitment to collaborations across academic disciplines and institutional partners. As a regional comprehensive university, UW-Platteville emphasizes interdisciplinary collaborations to support student success, workforce readiness, and the evolving needs of the healthcare and public health sectors. The Public Health major is housed within the Department of Biology but draws upon coursework, expertise, and resources from multiple academic units across campus, including the Schools of Business and Agriculture, and the Departments of Applied Engineering Technology Management, Environmental Sciences

and Society, History and Social Sciences, Human Health and Performance, Mathematics, and Psychology. This collaborative model strengthens connections across disciplines, enhances opportunities for interdisciplinary research and community engagement, and leverages existing institutional strengths.

UW-Platteville maintains strong relationships with healthcare providers, public health agencies, nonprofit organizations, schools, community organizations, and government agencies throughout Southwest Wisconsin. These organizations have the potential to support internships, capstone projects, service-learning experiences, community-based research, public health outreach activities, and professional networking opportunities. These partnerships have been strengthened through a series of regional healthcare workforce summits hosted and facilitated by UW-Platteville in 2017, 2021, and 2023. These summits brought together 50-70 attendees including healthcare administrators, public health officials, community health advocates, educational partners, and employers to identify workforce needs and opportunities for collaboration[2,3,4]. Maintaining communication with local and regional partners helps to ensure that the program curriculum remains aligned with workforce needs and emerging public health challenges.

Projected Time to Degree

The B.S. in Public Health program can be completed in four years of full-time enrollment at 15 credits per semester.

Accreditation

As a baccalaureate degree program, the B.S. in Health Sciences will be covered under UW-Platteville's institutional accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission. No other special accreditation is required.

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[2] All In Wisconsin. *UW-Platteville Leads Summit to Address Rural Health Care Needs.* Retrieved at https://share.google/LODrzqNe9R7nHUW1I (July 2026).

[3] University of Wisconsin-Platteville News. *UW-Platteville, UW-Madison Continue Preparations for Launch of Physician Assistant Partnership.* Retrieved at https://share.google/0CUOiQujno4M1AhjK (July 2026).

[4] University of Wisconsin-Platteville News. *Summit Focuses on Rural Health Care Needs, Collaborations.* Retrieved at https://share.google/Ffsv4Ap3aOwddkh3K (July 2026).

PROGRAM JUSTIFICATION

Rationale

The proposed B.S. in Public Health is the result of sustained institutional planning, increased student interest in health-related careers, growing workforce demand for public health professionals, and ongoing engagement with health care and community partners throughout Southwest Wisconsin. The program addresses a critical need for professionals trained to improve population health, in rural and underserved communities.

The underlying model of the program builds upon existing academic strengths at UW-Platteville leveraging existing coursework in biology, health promotion, psychology, business administration, occupational safety, and statistics into a coherent and interdisciplinary degree pathway. This approach allows the university to respond efficiently to student and workforce demand while expanding educational opportunities in an area of strategic growth.

The program aligns closely with the University of Wisconsin–Platteville Strategic Plan 2025-31[5] and the university's mission of providing accessible, applied hands-on, career-focused education[6]. Specifically, it advances Strategic Objective 1: Foster Transformative Teaching and Learning through experiential learning, undergraduate research, and career-focused preparation. The curriculum supports Strategy 1.3: Provide Hands-On Applied Learning, as well as Strategy 1.4: Promote Curricular Excellence and Innovation by offering an interdisciplinary, workforce-responsive curriculum. The program also advances Strategic Objective 2: Achieve Optimal Enrollment by expanding academic pathways in a high-demand field and supporting recruitment and retention of students interested in healthcare careers. Furthermore, the major reflects the university's values of Access and Success, Innovation, and Stewardship of Place by expanding opportunities for students from rural communities and contributing to the health and well-being of the region.

Institution and Universities of Wisconsin Program Array

The proposed program will be a new interdisciplinary major housed in the Department of Biology and is expected to have minimal impact on existing academic programs at UW-Platteville as it serves a distinct student population and career pathway. The Public Health major complements other majors within the biology department by offering a pathway focused on population health, prevention, health promotion, healthcare administration, and community health practice. The Biology major will continue to serve students pursuing biological sciences, biotechnology, ecology, and graduate studies in

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[5] University of Wisconsin-Platteville. *2025-2031 Strategic Plan.* Retrieved at https://www.uwplatt.edu/strategic-plan (July 2026)

[6] University of Wisconsin-Platteville. *Mission.* https://www.uwplatt.edu/mission-and-vision (July 2026)

biology, while the new Health Sciences major will focus on preparing students for clinical healthcare professions. As a result, the program is expected to strengthen the recruitment and retention of students with a healthcare focus, while expanding educational opportunities within the university's existing portfolio.

Across the Universities of Wisconsin, five UW universities offer baccalaureate degrees that include "public health" in the program title. These include the B.S. in Public Health (CIP code 51.2201) and the B.S. in Environmental Public Health (CIP code 51.2208) at UW-Eau Claire, the B.S. in Public Health & Community Health Education (CIP code 51.2208) at UW-La Crosse, the B.S. in Public Health (CIP code 51.2201) at UW-Milwaukee, and the B.S. in Environmental Public Health (CIP code 51.2202) at UW-Oshkosh.[7]

There are four UW universities with graduate programs in Public Health. UW-Milwaukee has both an M.S. and Ph.D. in Public Health (CIP code 51.2201), UW-Eau Claire offers an M.S. in Public Health (CIP code 51.2201), UW-Madison offers an M.S. in Public Health (CIP code 51.2201), and UW-La Crosse offers an M.S. in Public Health (CIP code 51.2208).[8] The proposed B.S. in Public Health will be offered at the baccalaureate level and will not compete with these graduate programs. However, graduates of the B.S. in Public Health may pursue further training from these graduate programs

Need as Suggested by Student Demand

Student demand projections were developed using institutional enrollment data, Department of Biology enrollment trends, and advising records.

BIOLOGY 1230 Global Public Health, which is a core, foundational course for the proposed program, has seen steady enrollment since its development in Spring 2022. The enrollment trends including enrollment over 40 students each subsequent semester since it began (Table 3), reflect a high demand for this course by our student population. Students taking this course come from a variety of majors across campus including Biology, Forensic Investigation, Psychology, and Mechanical Engineering.

[7] Universities of Wisconsin Office of Policy Analysis and Research. *UWS Academic Majors.* Retrieved at https://www.wisconsin.edu/opar-frontier/uws-academic-majors/ (July 2026)

[8] Universities of Wisconsin Office of Policy Analysis and Research. *UWS Academic Majors.* Retrieved at https://www.wisconsin.edu/opar-frontier/uws-academic-majors/ (July 2026)

Table 3: Enrollment Numbers in BIOLOGY 1230 Global Public Health										
Term	SPRING 2022		FALL 2023		SPRING 2025		FALL 2025		FALL 2026	
Enrollment	29		50		44		46		40*	
Major Distribution	Biology Not Bio	21 8	Biology Not Bio	21 29	Biology Not Bio	17 27	Biology Not Bio	23 23	Biology Not Bio	14 26

* enrollment period for Fall 2026 still open.

In addition to student trends in current courses, according to the Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes Explorer of the United States Census Bureau, 22.6% of UW-Platteville Biology graduates have gone on to work in Health Care and Social Assistance and 5.4% have gone on to work in Public Administration[9].

Based on these trends, enrollment projections assume that a portion of students currently enrolled in Biology and health-focused pathways will transition into the Public Health major. Additional enrollment growth is anticipated through recruitment of prospective students seeking a healthcare-related degree that focuses on prevention, population health, and community impact rather than direct clinical care.

Need as Suggested by Market Demand

The B.S. in Public Health responds to documented workforce needs at the local, regional, state, and national levels. Healthcare and public health remain the fastest-growing employment sectors in the United States due to an aging population, increased demand for health services, workforce retirements, and growing emphasis on disease prevention and population health management.

Public health agencies serving rural communities frequently face challenges related to staffing, funding, technology, and infrastructure, limiting their ability to meet community health needs. Counties in Southwest Wisconsin, including Grant, Crawford, Lafayette, and Vernon, contain federally designated Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) as determined by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)[10] and experience ongoing recruitment challenges. According to the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, the healthcare support occupations category is expected to see a projected increase of 12.2% from 2022 to 2032, translating to about 23,501 annual job openings across the state with 878 in the southwest region. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a

[9] U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD). *Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO): Employment Flows by Industry for University of Wisconsin–Platteville Graduates.* Retrieved at https://lehd.ces.census.gov/applications/pseo (July 2026).

[10] Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Workforce, *Workforce Shortage Areas*. Retrieved at https://bhw.hrsa.gov/workforce-shortage-areas/shortage-designation/scoring

growth of 11% for community health workers, 23% for medical and health services managers, and 12% for occupational health and safety specialists and technicians[11].

These occupations represent key career pathways for graduates of the B.S. in Public Health. Recent workforce analysis from by UWSA OPLR (while named UW Extended Campus) argued in a since-paused proposal of a collaborative B.S. in Public Health that: Based on external feasibility analysis, occupational growth projections in the upper Midwest over the next ten years is 23%. The analysis of job postings identifies that 50% require a bachelor's degree; and 15% require a master's degree (26% had no education level listed)[12].

Collectively these demonstrate strong and sustained demand for graduates prepared to work in public health, health promotion, healthcare administration, occupational health and safety, and related fields. The B.S. in Public Health will help address workforce shortages that support the health and well-being of communities throughout Wisconsin and the surrounding region.

[11] Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. Retrieved at https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare.home.htm (July *2026*)
[12] University of Wisconsin Extended Campus. Public Health Feasibility and Labor Market Analysis. Internal workforce and program demand analysis.

University of Wisconsin - Platteville
Cost and Revenue Projections For Newly Proposed Program

	Items	Projections				
		2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
I	**Enrollment (New Student) Headcount**	6	9	12	15	18
	Enrollment (Continuing Student) Headcount	0	5	10	14	19
	Enrollment (New Student) FTE	6	9	12	15	18
	Enrollment (Continuing Student) FTE	0	5	10	14	19
II	**Total New Credit Hours**	72	108	144	180	216
	Existing Credit Hours	0	54	122	199	262
III	**FTE of New Faculty/Instructional Staff**	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE of Current Fac/IAS	0	0	0	0	0
	FTE of New Admin Staff	0	0	0	0	0.25
	FTE Current Admin Staff	0	0	0	0	0
IV	**Revenues**					
	Tuition	$26,780	$60,254	$98,749	$141,011	$177,624
	Fees (indicate type)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Program Revenue (Grants)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Program Revenue - Other	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	GPR (re)allocation	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Total Revenue	**$26,780**	**$60,254**	**$98,749**	**$141,011**	**$177,624**
V	**Expenses**					
	Salaries plus Fringes					
	Faculty Salary	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Instuctional Academic Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Administrative and Student Support Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$11,250
	Other Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Fringe Faculty and Academic Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$4,743
	Fringe University Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Fringe Other Staff	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	Facilities and Capital Equipment					
	University buildings and space	0	0	0	0	0
	Capital Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
	Operations	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Expenses					
	Other (please list)					
	Other (please list)					
	Total Expenses	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$15,993**
	Net Revenue	**$26,780**	**$60,254**	**$98,749**	**$141,011**	**$161,631**

Provost's Signature: **Date:**

Signed by:
21AD98FBF849436...

7/24/2026 | 12:08 PM CDT

Chief Business Officer's Signature: **Date:**

Signed by:
Jana Steinmetz
63B2782BAC414D1...

7/24/2026 | 12:20 PM CDT

COST AND REVENUE PROJECTIONS NARRATIVE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–PLATTEVILLE
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

The University of Wisconsin–Platteville proposes to establish a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Public Health. The proposed program is an interdisciplinary undergraduate degree designed to prepare students for careers focused on improving population health, preventing disease, promoting wellness, and addressing public health challenges regionally and nationally. Graduates will be prepared for employment in our rural community and within public health organizations as well as for related graduate studies. The curriculum consists of 120 credits, including a Public Health Core, a senior capstone experience, an accompanying minor, and elective coursework that allow students to customize their educational experience based on career interests and workforce needs.

The B.S. in Public Health builds upon existing institutional strengths by leveraging current courses, faculty expertise, facilities, advising structures, and academic resources across multiple departments. The interdisciplinary structure of the program creates opportunities for collaboration among programs in health and human performance, biology, psychology, business, and occupational safety, while providing a distinct academic pathway for students interested in health-related careers outside of direct clinical practice. This program in addition to the proposed Health Science B.S. will round out current offerings for the Department of Biology at UW-Platteville, growing on existing strengths, meeting student interests and directly serving workforce development needs while efficiently utilizing resources and areas of expertise.

The program will operate under the university's standard undergraduate tuition structure and rely primarily on existing academic resources. Budget projections, therefore, reflect a combination of existing instructional capacity and modest program growth in teaching and administrative capacity rather than substantial new personnel or facility investments.

COST REVENUE NARRATIVE

Section I – Enrollment

Enrollment projections for the proposed B.S. in Public Health were developed using institutional enrollment data, advising records, and participation in health-related academic programs. Particular attention was given to the growing number of students interested in health-related careers. Growing awareness of public health careers following the COVID-19

pandemic has further increased student interest in population health, positioning the program to support both student and workforce demand.

Table 1 represents enrollment and graduation projections for students entering the program in the first five years. While continuing student projections in year 1 were included in the authorization documents, as those students do not contribute to new tuition revenue generation, they are not included in Table 1 below or the cost and projections spreadsheet.

As shown in Table 1, enrollment is projected to increase steadily during the first five years as students are recruited into the program. The projections incorporate a yearly retention rate of 75% based on current institutional retention data for the Biology major. Through proactive advising, faculty mentorship, and established student support services, the university anticipates strong student persistence and completion rates. Over the five-year period, the program is projected to enroll 60 new students and graduate 14 students.

Table 1: Five-Year Enrollment and Tuition Revenue Projections by Headcount

Students/Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
New Students	6	9	12	15	18
Continuing Students	0	5	10	14	19
Total Enrollment	6	14	22	29	37
Graduating Students	0	0	3	4	7

Section II – Credit Hours

Credit hour projections for the proposed B.S. in Public Health include only coursework attributable to major requirements and exclude general education coursework.

For budgeting purposes, new credit hours represent credit hours generated by students enrolled in the Public Health major that would not otherwise be produced without the program. Existing credit hours represent credit hours generated through courses that are already offered by the university and incorporated into the Public Health curriculum.

Credit hour projections were calculated using projected program enrollment and the sequence of major requirements students are expected to complete each year. In the first year of implementation, the program is expected to generate 72 new credit hours based on the anticipated six (6) new students. As additional cohorts enter the program and continuing students advance through the curriculum at 12 credits of major requirements per year, new credit hour production is projected to increase to 108 credit hours in year 2, 144 credit hours in year 3, 180 credit hours in year 4, and 216 credit hours in year 5.

Section III – Faculty and Staff Appointments

The proposed B.S. in Public Health has been intentionally designed as an interdisciplinary program that leverages existing coursework, faculty expertise, and institutional resources. Faculty and staff FTE projections reflect the anticipated enrollment growth of the program over its first five years. During the first four years, existing faculty and staff appointments are expected to be sufficient to support program delivery, advising, and administration. If enrollment growth continues as anticipated, an additional 0.25 FTE administrative staff position may be added beginning in year 5, resulting in a total increase of 0.25 FTE above current staffing levels. These projected increases represent redirected or expanded instructional effort rather than the immediate creation of new full-time positions and are intended to ensure sufficient instructional capacity and advising support as the program matures.

Section IV – Program Revenues

Tuition

Students enrolled in the program will be charged standard undergraduate tuition and fees in accordance with UW-Platteville tuition schedules. For purposes of revenue projections, student credit hours are assumed to be distributed as follows: 77% Wisconsin and Minnesota residents ($317.98 per credit), 21% Illinois/Iowa residents ($536.92 per credit), and 2% nonresident students ($717.78 per credit). These residency assumptions are based on current and recent historical enrollment patterns at UW-Platteville.[1]

Tuition revenue projections were calculated by multiplying the projected student credit hours generated by new and continuing students (as reported in Section I) by the tuition rate associated with the distribution of students based on residency. This approach reflects the expected mix of student residency classifications and provides a reasonable estimate of tuition revenue attributable to the program.

All projected revenues are derived from standard undergraduate tuition generated through enrollment in the B.S. in Public Health program. These revenues are expected to be sufficient to support the long-term sustainability of the program.

Fees

Certain courses may include special course fees, consistent with UW System Administrative Policy 825, *Special Course Fees*, to cover costs such as instructional materials, online learning resources, required field trips, transportation, admissions, or project materials retained by students.

[1] UW-Platteville Internal Enrollment Management Dashboard. Retrieved July 2026.

Program Revenues and GPR

No additional grants, gifts, extramural funding sources, or non-tuition program revenues are planned or budgeted to support the B.S. in Public Health. Likewise, no new General Purpose Revenue (GPR) allocations or redirections are anticipated for implementation of the program. The B.S. in Public Health is expected to be supported through existing institutional resources and tuition revenue generated by enrolled students.

Section V – Program Expenses

The proposed B.S. in Public Health has been designed to maximize the use of existing institutional resources while minimizing new expenditures.

Salary and Fringe

No new faculty or instructional staff appointments are required to implement the B.S. in Public Health during its initial five years. Because the program is built entirely upon existing courses and faculty expertise, existing instructional and administrative resources are sufficient to support program launch and early enrollment growth. If enrollment growth continues as projected, administrative effort increases to 0.25 FTE in Years 5.

Fringe benefit expenses were calculated using the university's standard fringe benefit rates and applied to the projected salary expenditures. Total salary and fringe costs are therefore directly linked to the incremental instructional and advising support required to sustain the program as enrollment grows. Because the curriculum relies on existing courses and instructional infrastructure, potential personnel expenses represent the primary direct cost associated with program implementation and operation.

Facilities and Capital Equipment

No new facilities, renovations, or capital equipment are required for the program.

Other Expenses

No significant additional direct or indirect program expenses are anticipated during the first five years of implementation. Marketing, recruitment, advising, and administrative activities associated with the program are expected to be supported through existing university processes and resources. Likewise, no additional library expenditures are anticipated.

Section VI – Net Revenue

The B.S. in Public Health is projected to generate positive net revenue beginning in Year 1. The program is expected to produce net revenues of $26,780 in Year 1, $60,254 in Year 2, $98,749 in Year 3, $141,011 in Year 4, and $177,624 in Year 5.

As net revenues increase with enrollment growth, excess funds will be reinvested to support the continued development and quality of the program. Reinvestment priorities may include faculty and instructional support, student success initiatives, laboratory and instructional resources, clinical and community partnerships, marketing and recruitment efforts, and other strategic investments that enhance the student experience and strengthen the university's health sciences offerings. These reinvestments will help ensure the long-term sustainability and growth of the program while supporting the university's mission and strategic priorities.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PLATTEVILLE

July 23, 2026

Interim President Renée Wachter
Universities of Wisconsin
1720 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Dr
Madison, WI 53706

Re: Provost Letter of Support for Implementation of a B.S. in Public Health

Dear President Wachter:

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville is pleased to request authorization to implement a Bachelor of Science in Public Health. The Notice of Intent for this major was circulated to the Universities of Wisconsin universities in January 2025. No concerns were raised by any UW university. The program has been unanimously approved by all UW-Platteville governance bodies including the budget commission, academic planning council, university undergraduate and graduate curriculum commission, and faculty senate.

The Public Health program is interdisciplinary. Students will take core courses in biology, math, safety and risk, psychology, wellness, and leadership and management. They will also choose a focus area based on their interests and career goals. Focus areas include biology, health promotion, business administration, safety engineering management, and psychology. Graduates of the B.S. in Public Health will be prepared to contribute to our rural community with careers in public health, health promotion, healthcare administration, occupational health and safety, and related fields.

The Department of Biology has the necessary resources to offer this program, and they will be assessed according to the university's governance procedures.

As Provost, I endorse these programs and recommend it to the Board of Regents for adoption.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laura K. Reynolds
Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

cc: Dr. Wayne Weber, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

2400 Ullsvik Hall | 1 University Plaza Stop 1 | Platteville WI 53818-3099
608.342.1261 | www.uwplatt.edu/leadership

Education Committee **Item D.**

August 20, 2026

2025-2026 UPDATE ON UNIVERSITIES OF WISCONSIN SUPPORT FOR STUDENT BASIC NEEDS—WHERE WE ARE & WHERE WE'RE GOING

REQUESTED ACTION

For information and discussion.

SUMMARY

Student basic needs are essential resources needed to survive, thrive, and learn in college. Examples include consistent access to food, housing, transportation, technology, childcare, health services, and overall financial wellness. When students have basic needs concerns, they often struggle to learn, stay enrolled and, ultimately, to graduate. The Universities of Wisconsin have a long history of providing support to these students. However, too many students, both undergraduate and graduate students alike, still lack consistent access to these and other essential needs.

Since the Board of Regents last heard a report in summer 2022 on efforts to support student basic needs, much has happened, especially within the last academic year. Through a panel presentation, the Education Committee will receive an update on student basic needs initiatives, data, as well as resources, services, and campus practices. The panel will also share ongoing efforts and future plans, including collaborative efforts underway with our Wisconsin higher education partners: Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges & Universities (WAICU), Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS), and the Tribal Colleges and University (TCUs).

Presenters

- Julie L. Amon, Associate Vice President for Enrollment & Student Success, UW Administration
- Becky Freer, Interim Dean of Students for Support & Advocacy, UW-Milwaukee
- Maverick Slaven, Student, Orientation Leader, UW-Milwaukee
- Kate Demerse, Assistant Chancellor for Student Affairs & Dean of Students, UW-Oshkosh
- Matthew Caine, Student, President, Oshkosh Student Government, UW-Oshkosh

BACKGROUND

College affordability extends beyond the cost of tuition and fees. It is also about the total cost of attendance—all the expenses that students, and their families, must address while they attend college. Nationally, one of the most frequent reasons that students drop out of college is an unexpected expense. National findings from the 2025 Trellis Student Financial Wellness Survey indicate:

- 54% of students face basic needs insecurity,
- 54% said they would struggle to access $500 in cash or credit for an unexpected expense, and
- 65% indicated they had run out of money at least once since the start of the year.

Therefore, understanding and providing support for student basic needs is an essential component of any work to address college affordability.

Over the last decade, growing attention has been centered on college student basic needs at national, regional, state, and campus levels. Work has focused on building data infrastructure, quantitative and qualitative research, elevating student voices, advocacy and public policy work, developing, implementing and scaling resources and services, and increasing awareness. While all UW universities provide basic needs resources and services, there is more that can be done to help students address challenges that create barriers to learning, success, and completion. Further, there is more that Wisconsin can do as a state, working in collaboration with higher education institutions, to support college student basic needs. This presentation will highlight current and planned efforts, along with future systemwide and statewide opportunities to strengthen student basic needs support and college affordability.

Resources

- Trellis Strategies Student Financial Wellness Survey - www.trellisstrategies.org/sfws/
- Trellis Strategies Student Financial Wellness Survey – Fall 2025 Results - https://www.trellisstrategies.org/research-studies/student-financial-wellness-survey-fall-2025/

Education Committee **Item E.**
August 20, 2026

ONGOING ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

REQUESTED ACTION

For information and discussion.

SUMMARY

Senior Vice President Johannes Britz will provide an update on system level support for operationalizing RPD 20-25, "Teaching Workload" and RPD 4-23, "Core General Education Requirements" and will include any progress toward implementation.

Presenter

- Johannes Britz, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Universities of Wisconsin

BACKGROUND

2025 Wisconsin Act 15 Section 137
Section 36.115 (10) of the statutes establishes new requirements for instructional workloads across the Universities of Wisconsin, effective September 1, 2026. The statute defines faculty teaching responsibilities in terms of credit hours and mandates that full-time faculty and instructional academic staff teach a minimum number of courses each academic year, with different standards for universities classified as Research 1. It also provides for limited workload reductions for department chairs and employees with approved administrative duties, subject to oversight by the Joint Committee on Employment Relations. Additionally, the statute requires the development of a buyout plan, annual reporting on instructional workloads, and evaluation by the Legislative Audit Bureau to ensure compliance.
As a result, the Universities of Wisconsin must update policies, procedures, and reporting mechanisms to align with these statutory requirements while balancing instructional, administrative, and research responsibilities. The Instructional Employee Teaching Workload workgroup revised RPD 20-25, "Teaching Workload Policy," to comply with Wis. Stat. § 36.115(10) under 2025 Wisconsin Act 15. On November 19, 2025, Resolution 12407 was adopted by the Board of Regents, approving the revised RPD 20-25 and authorizing its

submission to the Joint Committee for Employment Relations (JCOER), with implementation directed no later than September 1, 2026. RPD 20-25 was submitted to JCOER on November 24, 2025, and was reviewed and approved and approved by JCOER on December 11, 2025. UW System Administrative Policy 200-Interim 3, "Faculty and Instructional Academic Staff Teaching Responsibilities and Workload" was developed, approved, and published. A second workgroup was formed to outline guidance for collection and reporting of teaching workload by UW universities.

2025 Wisconsin Act 15 Section 134

Recent amendments to Wisconsin Statute §36.11(3)(b) require the Universities of Wisconsin to update and align transfer credit policies to ensure consistency and equity across the system. Specifically, the statute mandates that by September 1, 2026, all credits for core general education courses must be fully transferable between universities within the system and apply toward general education requirements at the receiving university. On November 19, 2025, Resolution 12408 was adopted by the Board of Regents, approving RPD 4-23, "Core General Education Requirements", establishing six curricular categories totaling 30-36 credits and defining how Core General Education courses will transfer and apply to degree requirements across the Universities of Wisconsin. RPD 4-23 was submitted to JCOER on November 24, 2025. To operationalize CGER implementation, two additional work groups – Academic Affairs and Operational – were formed to collaboratively address technical, procedural, and communications needs, develop a new system policy, and revise related policies through shared governance consultation. UW System Administrative Policy (SYS) 100-Interim 13, "Universities of Wisconsin Core General Education Requirements" was approved and published. Efforts are currently in progress to support technical and procedural aspects of this work.

Resources

- Act 15 Section 134 Wis. Stat. § 36.11 (3)(b) General Education Course Transfer
- Act 15 Section 137 Wis. Stat. § 36.115 (10) Teaching Hours

Related Policies

- Regent Policy Document 4-23, "Core General Education Requirements"
- Regent Policy Document 20-25, "Teaching Workload Policy"
- UW System Administrative Policy 100-Interim 13: Universities of Wisconsin Core General Education Requirements
- UW System Administrative Policy 200-Interim 3: Faculty and Instructional Academic Staff Teaching Responsibilities and Workload