

# Health Justice and Bioethics MA

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LEWIS KATZ SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

## About the Program

The Master of Arts in Health Justice and Bioethics is the nation's only bioethics degree explicitly centered on health equity. The program provides a solid foundation in traditional bioethics along with practical training and resources for understanding and analyzing the ethics, values and value conflicts that exist in urban settings.

Students who pursue the gain practical, theoretical and methodological skills to address extreme inequities of health and access to medical, legal and other resources in disparate, diverse and dense urban areas. Due to the far-reaching impact of bioethics, students are welcomed from a wide variety of educational and professional backgrounds, including medicine, policy, philosophy and law.

**Time Limit for Degree Completion:** 5 years

**Campus Location:** Health Sciences Center

**Full-Time/Part-Time Status:** The degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis.

**Interdisciplinary Study:** The degree is designed for graduate students and professionals who face, or will soon face, the complexities and disparities of urban health, and want specialized training in the ethics, values and politics of healthcare in our increasingly multidimensionally diverse society. Dual-degree students can take advantage of the inherent interdisciplinary nature of a dual degree by applying approved electives from their primary program toward the MA, while stand-alone MA students take 15 credits of applicable electives to round out their degree. Six dual-degree programs are currently offered:

- MD/MA in Health Justice and Bioethics within the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
- DPT in Physical Therapy/MA in Health Justice and Bioethics with the Temple University College of Public Health
- MA in Philosophy/MA in Health Justice and Bioethics with the Temple University College of Liberal Arts
- PhD in Philosophy/MA in Health Justice and Bioethics with the Temple University College of Liberal Arts
- MA in Sociology/MA in Health Justice and Bioethics with the Temple University College of Liberal Arts
- PhD in Sociology/MA in Health Justice and Bioethics with the Temple University College of Liberal Arts

**Ranking:** In 2023, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University number 68 in Research and among the Best Medical Schools.

**Job Prospects:** Students graduating with the MA in Health Justice and Bioethics have the practical skills, including qualitative research, writing for diverse audiences, and advocacy, as well as theoretical and methodological training to advance in their existing careers and compete more competitively for residencies, job placements or other advanced graduate training programs.

**Non-Matriculated Student Policy:** Non-matriculated students with at least a bachelor's degree may register for courses by contacting MAUB@temple.edu. Credit toward a subsequent degree program at Temple University is limited to 9 credits, unless the student enrolls in the Health Justice and Bioethics graduate certificate program. All 14 credits required to complete the certificate are applicable to the Health Justice and Bioethics MA.

**Financing Opportunities:** Limited support is available for MA students concurrently enrolled in the MD program at Temple University.

## Admission Requirements and Deadlines

### Application Deadline:

Applications are accepted for Fall, Spring, and Summer II terms during the following timeframes:

*Fall:* March 16 – August 1

*Spring:* August 2 – January 1

*Summer II:* March 16 – June 1

Dual-degree applicants should note that application deadlines for companion programs may be earlier than the deadlines for the MA in Health Justice and Bioethics. Please visit the companion program's description in the Graduate Bulletin for details.

*APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.*

### Letters of Reference:

*Number Required:* 2-3

Students applying to the Health Justice and Bioethics MA program must submit three letters of reference and original transcripts from all post-high school institutions attended. However, students already matriculated into a graduate program at Temple University who are applying for a dual degree may:

- upon permission of their recommenders and their home school, use their home school letters of recommendation for the Health Justice and Bioethics MA application; and
- ask the Health Justice and Bioethics program administrators to request a transcript from the home school.

*From Whom:* Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members familiar with your academic performance and/or from professional supervisors familiar with your professional experience, accomplishments and potential for success in a graduate program.

**Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline:** While a baccalaureate degree is required for admission to the MA program, the major studied for the undergraduate degree is not specified.

**Statement of Goals:** Two to three double-spaced pages should address how you see the MA in Health Justice and Bioethics as integral to your current educational goals and current/future career development.

**Standardized Test Scores:**

GRE: Optional for applicants graduating from traditional undergraduate programs. Applicants for the dual degree and those already holding an advanced degree are not required to submit GRE scores.

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master's degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 79
- IELTS Academic: 6.5
- PTE Academic: 53

**Resume:** Current resume or CV required.

## Program Requirements

**General Program Requirements:**

*Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 32*

*Required Courses:*

| Code                      | Title  | Credit Hours |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| <b>Core Courses</b>       |  |              |
| UBTH 5001                 | Foundations of Health Justice and Bioethics I (Professional Students)  | 3            |
| UBTH 5002                 | Foundations of Health Justice and Bioethics II (Professional Students) | 3            |
| UBTH 5022                 | Community Engagement and Health Justice (Professional Students)        | 2            |
| UBTH 5023                 | Community Engagement II (Professional Students)                        | 2            |
| UBTH 5031                 | Health Care Policy and Economics (Professional Students)               | 2            |
| UBTH 5041                 | Critical Social Science and Urban Bioethics (Professional Students)    | 2            |
| <b>Electives</b>          |  | <b>15</b>    |
| <b>Research Course</b>    |  |              |
| UBTH 9996                 | Thesis (Graduate Students)   | 3            |
| <b>Total Credit Hours</b> |  | <b>32</b>    |

## Contacts

### Program Web Address:

<https://medicine.temple.edu/education/health-justice-bioethics-program>

### Department Information:

Center for Urban Bioethics  
 Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University  
 3440 N. Broad Street, Kresge Hall Suite  
 Philadelphia, PA 19140

MAUB@temple.edu  
215-707-3664

**Submission Address for Application Materials:**

[https://apply.temple.edu/MED\\_GRAD/](https://apply.temple.edu/MED_GRAD/)

**Mailing Address for Transcripts/Application Materials:**

LKSOM Center for Urban Bioethics  
ATTN: Catherine Averill  
3440 N. Broad Street, Kresge Hall Suite  
Philadelphia, PA 19140  
MAUB@temple.edu

**Department Contacts:**

*Senior Advisor:*  
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