



Frequently Asked Questions about SOPHAS

1. What if I only want to apply to UNT Health Science Center (UNTHSC)-School of Public Health (SPH)? Can I apply directly to UNTHSC and not through SOPHAS?

If you are applying only to UNT School of Public Health after September 4, 2007, you will need to apply through SOPHAS.

2. What if I have a specific question about UNTHSC School of Public Health?

Contact UNTHSC-SPH by calling 1-877-868-7741 or email sph@hsc.unt.edu.

3. Will paper applications still be available?

Yes, applicants will have the option of completing a paper application. Contact SOPHAS for a paper application.

For a Paper SOPHAS Application

SOPHAS

P.O. Box 9111

Watertown, MA 02471

Tel: 6176122090

Fax: 6176122092

TTY Tel: 6176122093

4. Should I write a professional goal statement (essay) for UNTHSC-SPH?

Yes, you will be able to personalize your statements/essays for UNTHSC-SPH.

5. Where will I send my original transcripts?

Original transcript should be sent to the SOPHAS. UNTHSC-SPH will need official transcripts once admitted.

6. Will I be able to send test scores directly to the SOPHAS?

The SOPHAS will accept many standardized test scores directly so in many cases, you will be able to use SOPHAS as a designation when you take a standardized test. For other tests that may add SOPHAS as a designation, you will need to have your scores sent directly to UNTHSC-SPH. Below is a current list of tests that will send scores directly to SOPHAS; please check back periodically for updates of tests that now will send test scores to SOPHAS.

a. GRE www.gre.com Designation #5688

b. MCAT <http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm> SOPHAS (Schools of Public Health Application Service)

c. TOEFL www.toefl.com Designation #5688

7. Does UNTHSC-SPH have a Secondary Application?

No, UNTHSC-SPH does not require a secondary application

8. How will letters of reference be administered?

SOPHAS will request three letters of reference. You will designate three authors, who will be contacted and prompted to complete a standard letter of reference form. You will be able to view, which recommenders have completed the form and which have not, and to designate another recommender if need be. Be sure you have talked to your recommenders for permission to list them on the SOPHAS application.

9. Will the letter of reference be the same for each school?

Yes, the letter of reference completed by your three letter authors will be sent to all schools to which you are applying.

However, if circumstances are that you would like a personalized letter to be sent to UNTHSC-SPH, you may certainly ask your recommender(s) to send a separate letter to UNTHSC-SPH directly. However, you will need to have three letters of reference sent to SOPHAS for your application to be complete, so any letters sent directly to schools should be in addition to the three letters required by SOPHAS.

10. How much will it cost to apply through the SOPHAS?

The fee structure for SOPHAS is as follows:

One designation \$95.00

Two designations \$140.00

Three designations \$180.00

Four designations \$210.00

Five designations \$250.00

Six designations \$290.00

Seven designations \$330.00

Eight designations \$380.00

Nine designations \$430.00

Ten designations \$480.00

Each additional designation above ten is an additional \$30.00.

11. Will there be a SOPHAS fee waiver program?

Yes, U.S. residents who can demonstrate financial need can apply to a fee waiver program which will waive the fee for the first application.

12. Will schools have the same deadlines?

No, each school will each have its own deadlines.

13. When can I use SOPHAS?

SOPHAS will be available all year long with the exception of August 15-30th.

14. If schools have their own deadline, then how will I know by when to apply?

You should apply by the earliest deadline. Deadlines are the latest date you can submit your SOPHAS application. Watch the UNTHSC-SPH website for possible extensions of the application deadline dates.

15. What happens if I apply to certain schools and then decide to add another school? Do I need to apply all over again?

No, as long as it is in the same application year, you can add another designated school to your existing application.

16. What if I apply to several schools will the schools know which schools I applied to?

No, the schools will not see which other schools you applied to. However, the application service will ask your permission to share that information after your matriculation to a particular school.

17. Can I be accepted at more than one school?

Yes, the SOPHAS is part of the application process, not the admission process. If you are accepted at more than one school, you will have to make a decision about which school to attend. The schools will not know if you are accepted at another school so this will not affect your application.

18. Are the schools in the service going to be asking for CVs or resumes?

Yes, some schools participating in SOPHAS will require a CV or resume. SOPHAS will allow you to upload the requirement documents and these will be forwarded to the participating schools, along with your application.