

## FAQ for George Washington University SPHHS Applicants

- 1. What if I only want to apply only to The George Washington University (GW) School of Public Health and Health Services (SPHHS)? Can I apply directly to GW and not through SOPHAS?**

If you are applying only to GW, you will need to apply through SOPHAS and complete the SPHHS Secondary Application.

- 2. What if I have a specific question about the SPHHS?**

Contact SPHHS by calling 202.994.2160 or email [sphhsinfo@gwumc.edu](mailto:sphhsinfo@gwumc.edu)

- 3. Will paper applications still be available?**

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

### **For a Paper SOPHAS Application**

SOPHAS  
P.O. Box 9111  
Watertown, MA 02471

Tel: 617-612-2090  
Fax: 617-612-2092  
TTY Tel: 617-612-2093

### **For a Paper SPHHS Secondary Application**

School of Public Health and Health Services  
2300 I Street, NW, 221 Ross Hall  
Washington, DC 20037

Tel: 202-994-2160  
Fax: 202-994-1850

- 4. Should I write a personal statement (essay) for SPHHS?**

Yes, you will be able to personalize your statements/essays for SPHHS on the SOPHAS Application.

- 5. Where will I send my original transcripts?**

Original transcript should be send to the SOPHAS. Students who have not graduated by the time they submit their transcripts to SOPHAS will be required to send their final transcript to SPHHS.

- 6. Will I be able to send test scores directly to the GW's School of Public Health and Health Services?**

- GRE - [www.gre.com](http://www.gre.com) - Designation #5268
- TOEFL - [www.toefl.com](http://www.toefl.com) - Designation #5268
- MCAT - <http://www.aamc.org/students/mcat/start.htm> - SOPHAS (Schools of Public Health Application Service)
- LSAT – Send a copy of your LSAT with your secondary application

- 7. Does SPHHS have a Secondary Application?**

Yes, SPHHS requires all applicants to submit the SPHHS Secondary Application and a \$60 check or money order made payable to The George Washington University. You will need to look at the specific application requirements determine if you are exempt from this fee.

**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 letter authors have completed the form and which have not and to designate another author if need be. Be sure you have talked to your letter authors 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 SPHHS, you may certainly ask your author(s) to send a separate letter to SPHHS directly. However, you will need to have two to 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 two to 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. Please designate that your application be sent to GW and submit it as early as possible, as students who do receive scholarship priority.

**13. When can I use SOPHAS?**

SOPHAS will be closed from August 15 through September 15. The first day you can apply for spring, summer or fall semesters 2009 is August 28, 2008.

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

You should apply by the earliest school's deadline. This is still the case; you are just adding more schools to your application.

**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.

**19. 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.