

Prevention Science Graduate Program Rutgers University, Camden

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<https://preventionscience.camden.rutgers.edu/>

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What is prevention science?

- ▶ The field of prevention science aims to:
 - ▶ Understand community- and individual-level academic, social, and health problems
 - ▶ Develop effective interventions
 - ▶ Translate scientific evidence into policy and practice
- ▶ *“A central tenet of prevention science is the promotion of health equity and reduction of disparities by studying how social, economic and racial inequalities and discrimination influence healthy development and well-being”*
<https://www.npscoalition.org/prevention-science>
- ▶ Prevention science draws from a diverse range of disciplines
 - ▶ E.g., epidemiological, social, psychological, behavioral, medical, and neurobiological sciences

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MA and PhD program at RUC

▶ Distinctive elements:

- ▶ Community engagement to develop, implement, and evaluate interventions to prevent health, academic, social problems
- ▶ Use of sophisticated statistical techniques to understand causal mechanisms

▶ 3 key categories of courses:

- ▶ Content
- ▶ Stats/methods
- ▶ Applied skills

▶ Credits:

- ▶ MA = 34
- ▶ PhD = 61

- ▶ Curriculum (almost) the same for the first 2 years in both programs

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MA and PhD program at RUC: Curriculum

Year 1

Semester 1 (10 credits)

- ▶ Quant Methods I
- ▶ Applied Statistical Programming (1)
- ▶ Research Methods
- ▶ Intro to Prevention Science

Semester 2 (10 credits)

- ▶ Quant Methods II
- ▶ Design for Causal Analysis
- ▶ Social Determinants of Health
- ▶ Current Topics in PS (1)

Year 2

Semester 1 (10 credits)

- ▶ Implementation Science/Program Eval
- ▶ Content elective
- ▶ Applied Prevention Science
- ▶ Current Topics in PS (1)

Semester 2 (4 credits MA; 10 credits PhD)

- ▶ Seminar in Action Research
- ▶ Current Topics in PS (1)

PhD only

- ▶ Methods/stats elective
- ▶ Content elective

Year 3 (PhD only)

Semester 1 (6 credits)

- ▶ Writing for grants/pubs (2)
- ▶ Methods/stats elective
- ▶ Current Topics in PS (1)
 - ▶ Organize

-Qualifying Exam-

Year 3, Semester 2 - Year 5 (15 credits)

- ▶ Dissertation research

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Careers in Prevention Science**

General career fields: education, research, health, social service, government, policy

PhD level

Settings

- University
- Health department/agency
- Human/social service agency (e.g., domestic violence organization)
- Government agency
- Federally funded prevention center
- Research organizations – both for profit and non-profit (e.g., RTI, RAND, Mathematica)
- Social science consultancy
- Pharmaceutical companies

Job Titles

- Tenure-track/research faculty
- Research analyst/scientist/study coordinator
- Statistician
- Intervention evaluation specialist
- Prevention services manager
- Housing program coordinator

**From data obtained at other institutions: ~1/2 of graduates pursue academic positions; ~1/2 pursue non-academic positions (mostly research-oriented)*

Master's level

Settings

- University (e.g., extension post, prevention research center)
- Primary/secondary school
- Health department/agency
- Human/social service agency
- Social advocacy organization
- Government agency
- Research organization
- Community prevention setting
- Nonprofit organization

Job titles

- Teacher
- Research assistant/project coordinator
- Behavioral health specialist
- Case worker/manager
- Interventionist
- Prevention specialist
- Program manager
- Policy analyst

**Data obtained via direct contact/online from existing programs nationwide

Additional Career Information

TOP PREVENTION SCIENCE-RELATED JOB TITLES

New Jersey prevention science-related positions by job title



Other Job Titles

- Associate Director, Statistics, Oncology
- Senior Research Associate/Research Investigator, Automation and Process Analytical Technologies (PAT) - Cell Therapies
- Director / Associate Director GI, Patient-Centered Outcomes, Global Evidence and Outcomes

TOP CREDENTIALS AND SKILLS

Top Skills	Top Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Analysis • Statistical Analysis • Community Outreach • Statistics • Statistical Analysis System (SAS) • Computer Programming/Coding • Presentation • Oncology • Health/Wellness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics • Biostatistics • Science • Pharmacy • Biology • Engineering • Pharmaceutical Science • Nursing • Medicine

Note: For this analysis, Hanover retrieved job postings data for prevention science-related positions in New Jersey from [JobsEQ](#), a proprietary database providing real-time job postings aggregated from thousands of websites. All data reflect the six-month period as of February 2022.

TOP NEW JERSEY EMPLOYERS

- Takeda Pharmaceutical
- Johnson & Johnson
- Rutgers University
- Bristol-Meyers Squibb
- Hackensack Meridian Health
- Novartis

“In New Jersey, several closely-related occupations in terms of skills are **expected to grow by 12.4 percent through 2031**, significantly faster than employment for all occupations (which is expected to decline by 2.2 percent). Regional and national trends are similarly positive.”

Funding options

MA

- ▶ Tuition discounts
- ▶ + \$2,000 off first year
- ▶ May qualify for additional \$2-4K per year if qualify for work study (based on FAFSA)

PhD*

- ▶ Tuition remission
- ▶ TA/GA support for 5 years: ~\$30K/year (academic year) PLUS employee insurance
- ▶ Note: cannot take outside employment with this option*

*For students who want to work full-time outside the university, start on the MA track to get tuition discounts

Tuition and fees: <https://graduateschool.camden.rutgers.edu/tuition-and-fees/> and <https://studentabcweb.rutgers.edu/estimator/>

For enrollment requirements (e.g., for financial aid), see: <https://scarlethub.rutgers.edu/financial-services/eligibility/enrollment-requirements/>

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Additional Admissions Information

▶ Admission requirements

- ▶ Master's: ≥ 3.3 overall GPA; $\geq B+$ in stats and methods
- ▶ PhD: ≥ 3.7 overall GPA; $\geq A$ in stats and methods
- ▶ Both: strong letters of recommendation, letter of interest/purpose (for PhD, information about potential faculty mentors is preferred)
- ▶ No GRE is currently required at this time

▶ Application process

- ▶ Complete FAFSA as soon as possible!
- ▶ Contact Dr. August with interest/additional questions: kristin.august@rutgers.edu
- ▶ Go to: <https://rutgers.force.com/ApplicantPortal/AppPortalCustom> to submit an application
 - ▶ PhD: DUE January 19, 2024
 - ▶ Master's: DUE March 1, 2024

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