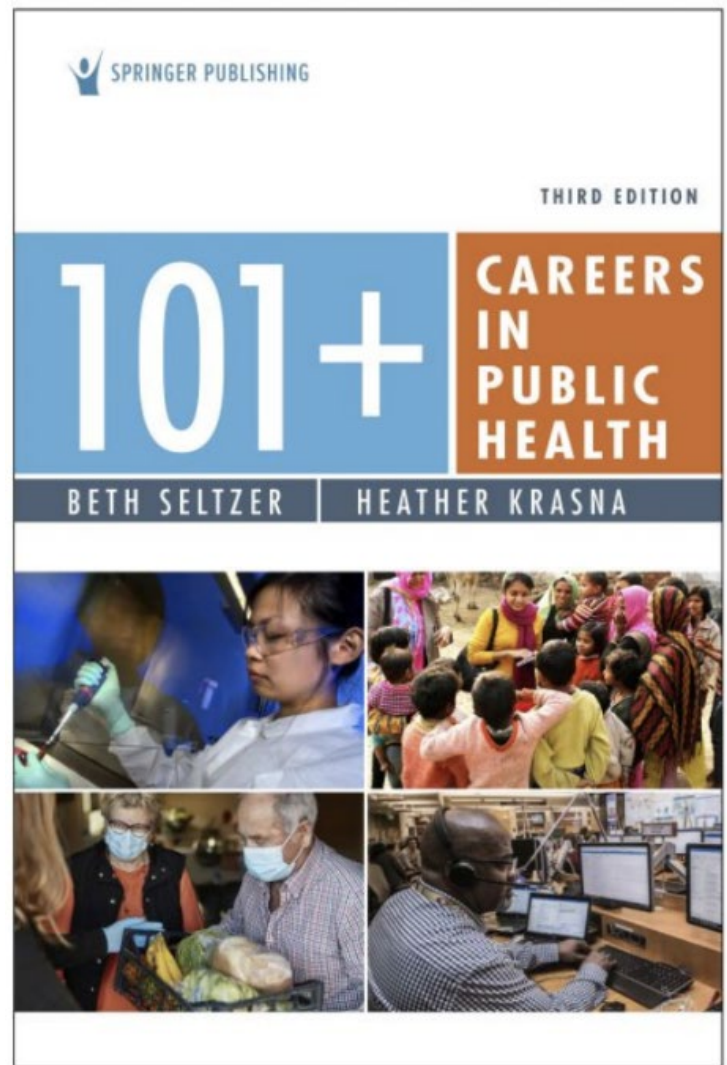


# Finding Your Professional Home in Public Health

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Columbia University School of Public Health

Co-author, 101+ Careers in Public Health, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.

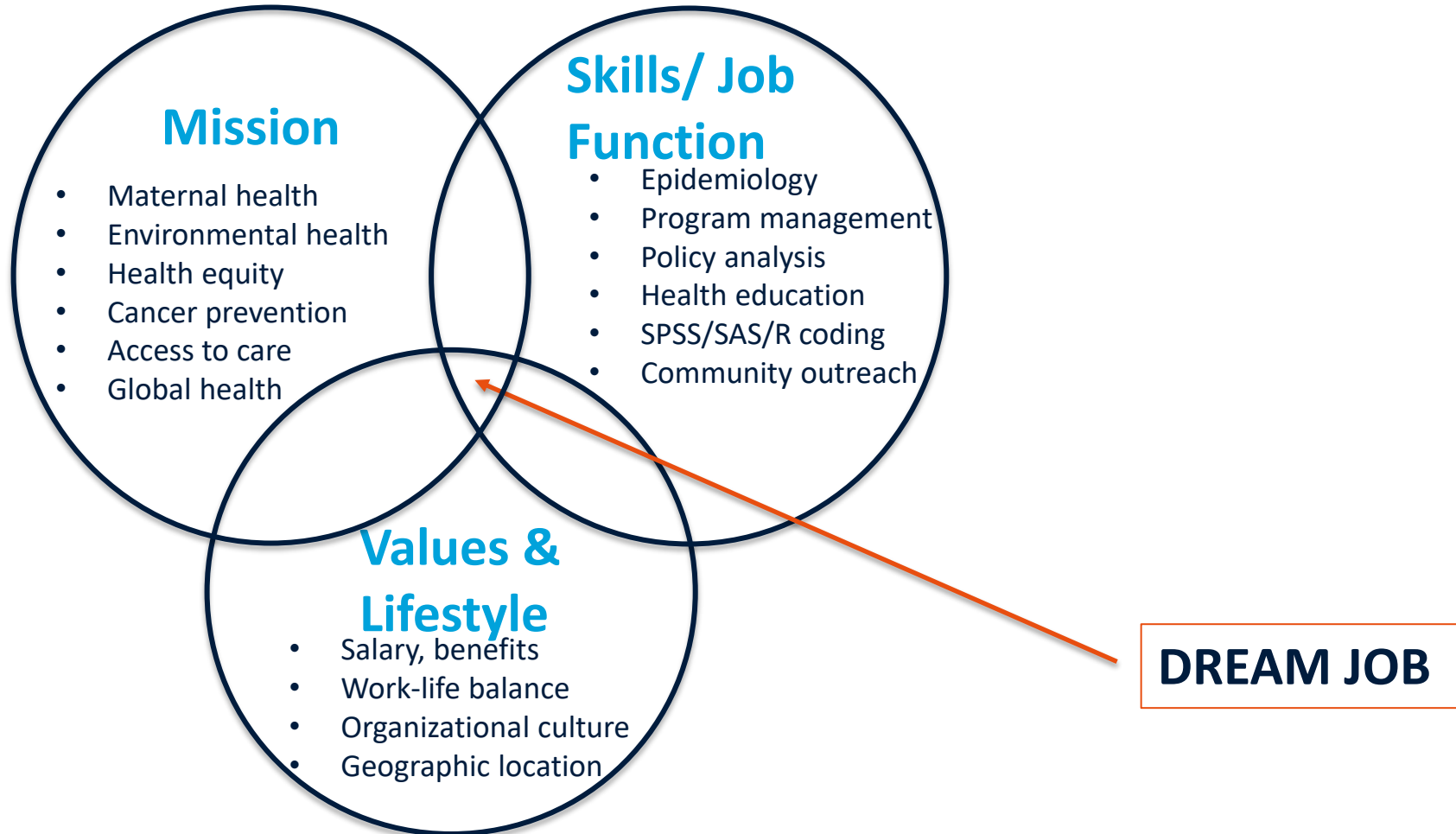


# Learning Outcomes

- Evaluate your own career priorities
- Describe some of the 101+ occupations in public health
- List 3 job search tips & resources

# Identifying Career Priorities & Exploring Public Health Careers

# Choosing A Public Health Career



# Which unique jobs exist in public health?

- Community health worker\*\*
- Contact tracer/disease intervention specialist\*\*
- Food inspector\*\*
- Patient navigator\*\*
- Health educator\*
- Laboratory technician\*
- Environmental health worker\*
- Preparedness staff\*
- Public health nurse\*
- Consumer safety officer\*
- Epidemiologist
- Public health program manager
- Public health laboratory scientist
- Biostatistician
- Poison hotline worker
- Infection preventionist
- Health commissioner
- Professor of public health

# Which other jobs are in high demand in public health?

- Business & operations, HR, communications\*
- IT/technology/data management\*
- Engineers\*
- Social worker, counselor, nutritionist

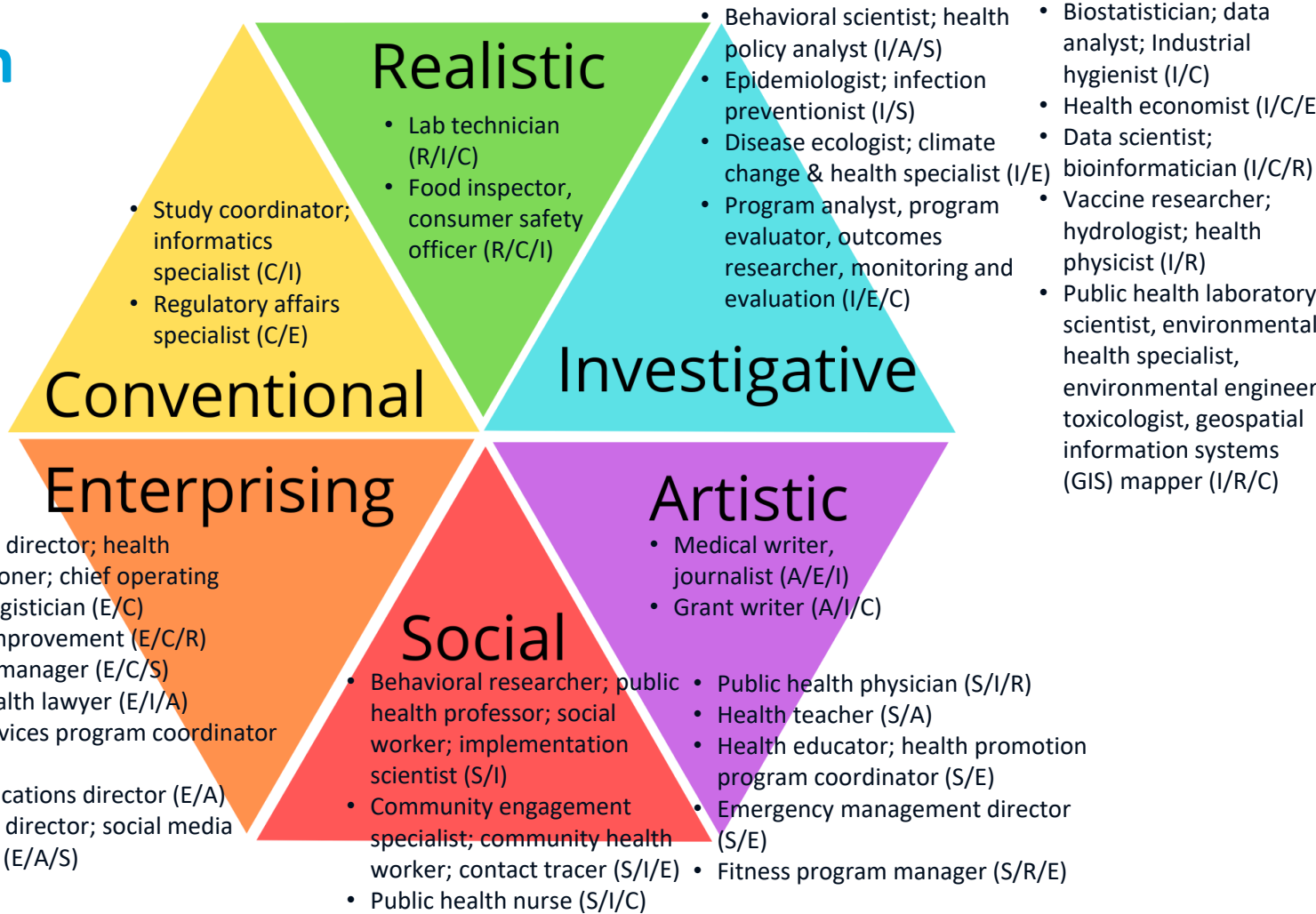
*\*\* May be community college or high school diploma level*

*\* May be undergraduate level*

# Public Health Careers...

# By Interests

[www.mynextmove.org/explore/ip](http://www.mynextmove.org/explore/ip)



# Who Does Public Health Work?

Federal Government



State & Territorial Government



Local Government



Improving Health Through Leadership and Innovation



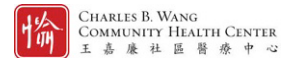
Public Health Prevent. Promote. Protect. Central Valley Health District

Hospitals/Health Systems

Global Health/NGO/Humanitarian



Nonprofits



Consulting

Marketing

Technology/Startups



Booz | Allen | Hamilton

Global Health Strategies



OmnicomGroup

FLATIRON

Pharma & Medical Devices



# Researching Careers

- Informational interviews:
  - Research (“What do you like the most about this job and what are some challenges?” “What advice would you give someone interested in this career?”)
  - Referrals (“Would you be willing to introduce me to others?”)
  - Read your resume (and get feedback)
  - Be remembered (positively!)



# Career Resources & Job Search Tips

# Websites

- NEW! <http://publichealthcareers.org>
- Launching Soon! Public Health Individual Development Plan: Sign up for details: <https://tinyurl.com/publichealthidp>
- <http://publichealthjobs.org>

# Loan Repayment & Forgiveness Programs

- **Public Service Loan Forgiveness:** <https://studentaid.gov/pslf/>
  - 120 monthly loan repayments while working for government agency or nonprofit
- **National Health Service Corps** <https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loan-repayment>
  - Nurses, doctors, social workers, counselors, psychologists, dentists, physician assistants, etc. working in health departments who meet specific eligibility/qualifications
- **Advocate for: Public Health Student Loan Repayment: HR3297 and PREVENT Pandemics Act!**

# New Career Opportunities!

THE WHITE HOUSE



BRIEFING ROOM

MENU

## FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration to Invest \$7 Billion from American Rescue Plan to Hire and Train Public Health Workers in Response to COVID-19

MAY 13, 2021 • STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

*Funding Will Create Tens of Thousands of Jobs to Respond to COVID-19,  
Prepare U.S. for Future Outbreaks, and Support Local Public Health  
Officials*

# A Note About Civil Service Hiring

- Some of the new roles are “term limited”; but may have pathways to convert to permanent
- Civil service (government) hiring can be different/complicated
  - Some states/localities require civil service exams
  - Some require longer resumes, or essays
  - Merit systems principles
  - Follow directions & pay attention to details
  - Ask for help!

## A Few More Career Tips

- Use your college career services if you can
- Network! Use LinkedIn for contacts and research
- You have to be in it to win it
- Be a “go giver”

# Epidemiologist

“My work “integrates data to track disease to inform what public health actions are needed...” I use “analytical, evidence-based assessments and manage large datasets.” --Caitlyn Wolfe, MPH, CPH, Florida Dept. of Health and World Health Organization



- Disease detectives
- Study of how diseases spread
- Population screening
- Statistical analysis
- Data analytics

# Health Educator

“My goal is to reduce disparities in pregnancy complications and infant death. Black women die at a rate of 243% more than white women from childbirth-related causes.”

“I’ve trained home-visiting nurses... I teach classes for men, women, the whole family, all preparing for birth and baby.”

“We can always use more people working in public health who care about what we do.” — *William Moore, Health Educator, Certified Perinatal Educator, St. Paul Ramsey County Public Health Department*





# Community Engagement

“The county had previously developed equity policies and guidelines but didn’t take the time to work with community members side by side.”



“A big part of my work is to be out there where the people are.”

“The ultimate goal of my work is to build sustainable systems in a way that ends with more power for the community.”

*--Maureen de Nieva-Marsh, MBA, Marin County Office of Equity, CA*

Images from: [www1.nyc.gov/site/sbs/neighborhoods/community-engagement-assistance.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/sbs/neighborhoods/community-engagement-assistance.page), [westendmural.wordpress.com/](http://westendmural.wordpress.com/), [www.dse.vic.gov.au/effective-engagement/introduction-to-engagement/what-is-community-engagement](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/effective-engagement/introduction-to-engagement/what-is-community-engagement)

# Environmental Health Inspector/Sanitarian

“I supervise inspectors who inspect buildings and respond to complaints regarding pest control.”



“I truly fight for people in hard situations.” –*Danisa Arias, Sanitarian II, NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene*



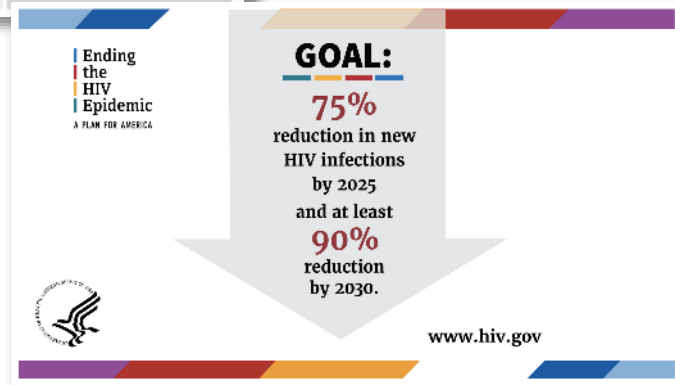
“I have bachelor’s and master’s degrees in biology. I was surprised my skills were really applicable when I saw the description for sanitarian. It was much more exciting and rewarding than I had expected.”

# HIV Prevention



“I am a connector of people, ideas, and resources, [including] people living with HIV, HIV service providers, allied health professionals, and other community partners.” --*Mariah Wilberg, MPA, Minnesota Department of Human Services*

“I provide advice, consultation, and subject matter expertise... for programming, service, delivery, and funding.”



# Program Evaluator

“My role is to assess the program both along the way and at the end.”



“Is the program rolling out in the way the team envisioned?”

“Has it achieved the goals it set out to? What has been successful and what hasn’t, and why?” --B. Casey Lyons, MPH, Southern Plains Tribal Health Board, OK



# Emergency Preparedness

“I direct emergency management  
...at the largest municipal  
healthcare system in the United  
States.”

“We have dealt with a coastal  
storm, a heat emergency, a  
threat of cyberattack, and civil  
unrest, all while concurrently  
responding to the COVID-19  
pandemic.”

“My job offers the opportunity to solve complex challenges. I am forced to think critically and work collaboratively with many different partners to protect the public’s health from disasters.”--*Meghan McGinty, PhD, MPH, MBA, Director, Emergency Management, NYC Health + Hospitals*



**Thank you!**

Heather Krasna

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Youtube Playlist:

<https://tinyurl.com/101phcareersvideos>