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WordSmith

Happy Spring!

As I watch the daffodils and tulips in my yard poke their heads up out of the ground and bloom, I'm reminded that warmer weather is just around the corner; that my days will soon be full of sunscreen, sailing on the Kalmar Nyckel, and beach vacations.

But before I can slip on my flip flops once again, there are three months of spring, and a lot of enjoyable activities to experience!

- [National Public Health Week](#) is April 1-7. The theme this year is "Protecting, Connecting, and Thriving: We Are All Public Health." A spring theme if ever I've heard one! Join the national association and all of us in Delaware as we look closely at Civic Engagement, Healthy Neighborhoods, Climate Change, New Tools & Innovations, Reproductive and Sexual Health, Emergency Preparedness, and the Future of Public Health.
- [Earth Day](#) is April 22. Join the Delaware State Parks as they celebrate the Earth all month! It can be as easy as picking up trash in your neighborhood.
- The Academy/DPHA is holding our [94th Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony](#) on Wednesday, May 1! Join the Board, the staff, and me as we hear from Keynote Speaker and APHA President Dr. Ella Greene-Moton, and we honor Dr. Joseph Kestner, Jr. and the Sussex County Health Coalition! Our event is at the Hyatt Place Wilmington Riverfront, and we hope to see everyone there!
- We are delighted to join our colleagues throughout Delaware at the **Rural Health Conference** on May 30. Stay tuned for more as the event agenda gets finalized.



I'm sure I've missed several events that are happening, and if you haven't signed up for the latest session of [Mini Medical School](#) yet, it's not too late! For now, please enjoy the weather (and the rain!), the flowers, and the lengthening daylight! See you at the Annual Meeting!

Kate Smith, MD, MPH
*Executive Director, Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association
Publisher, Delaware Public Health Journal*

DoMore24: Thank You!

We want to express our profound

gratitude to everyone who participated in our recent fundraising campaign, DoMore24 Delaware/Delaware Gives.

Together, our community rallied behind our cause, and we are thrilled to announce that we raised a total of \$2,275.

Your generosity has a direct impact on our ability to advance healthcare and public health initiatives in Delaware, supporting endeavors such as organizing educational conferences, nurturing programs like Mini Medical School, mentoring students, and curating the Delaware Journal of Public Health.

Each donation, regardless of size, contributes to the sustainability of essential healthcare services for generations to come.

Additionally, we would like to take this opportunity to honor our major donors whose remarkable contributions played a significant role in our success:

Dorothy Gibbs
&
S. John Swanson, MD

Your unwavering support inspires us and underscores the importance of our mission. Thank you for your dedication to improving healthcare in our community.

THANK YOU!



The Academy/DPHA Annual Meeting

Registration is Open!



94TH ANNUAL MEETING

of



DELAWARE
ACADEMY of
MEDICINE

DPHA
DELAWARE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

MAY 1, 2024 | 6 PM- 9 PM

HYATT PLACE WILMINGTON
RIVERFRONT

760 Justison St, Wilmington, DE 19801



94th Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony

When: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Where: Hyatt Place Wilmington Riverfront - 760 Justison St, Wilmington, DE 19801

Notes:

Please sign-in to your membership account to receive eligible discounts.

Please contact Dayzha Washam, dwasham@delamed.org for student rates and questions!

Register Here

DE Mini Medical School- North

April 10th to May 15th
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Delaware Mini Medical School Spring 2024 - NORTH

10

APR

**Rheumatology- Joint Inflammation:
Do I have an autoimmune disease?**

Devanshu Verma, MD, MBA

Thoracic Surgery and Robotic Surgery

Brian Nam, MD

17

APR

24

APR

**Behavioral Health - Understanding
Addiction & Anxiety/Depression**

Vishesh Agarwal, MBBS & Matthew Lind, PA-C

Endocrine Disorders (Non-Diabetic Related)

John Donnelly, MD & Resident Elizabeth Klingensmith

01

MAY

08

MAY

**Sports Medicine (Dance, Fitness, &
Sports Medicine)**

Elizabeth Barchi, MD

Skin Cancer

Arvind Sabesan, MD

15

MAY

delawareminimed.org

Designed for individuals who want to gain a deeper understanding of the world of medicine, Delaware Mini-Medical School is a free, six-week series. **This series is designed for middle, junior, high school, and undergraduate students, though all are welcome to attend. (Parents, attend with your children!)** Attendees learn about important trends in diagnosing and treating illness and general health topics. Faculty will provide in-depth lectures and allow time for questions to enhance the experience. There are no tests or grades. No previous medical training is required.

Qualifying participants who attend all six sessions of a series will receive a **Signed Certificate of Achievement and become members of the Delaware Mini Medical School Academy.** Attendance is taken via zoom login for this purpose. For students who are unable, or do not want to attend all six sessions, a self-signed certificate will be made available at the conclusion of the series.

[Register here](#)

National Public Health Week 2024



Public health is more than just health care. It's the steps we take to make sure our neighborhoods and environment are free from pollution. It's making sure our food and water are safe to eat and drink. It's also the relationships we foster in our communities. We're all interconnected. When we all come together to support public health, all of us — individuals, families, communities and the public health field — can achieve the goals of public health.

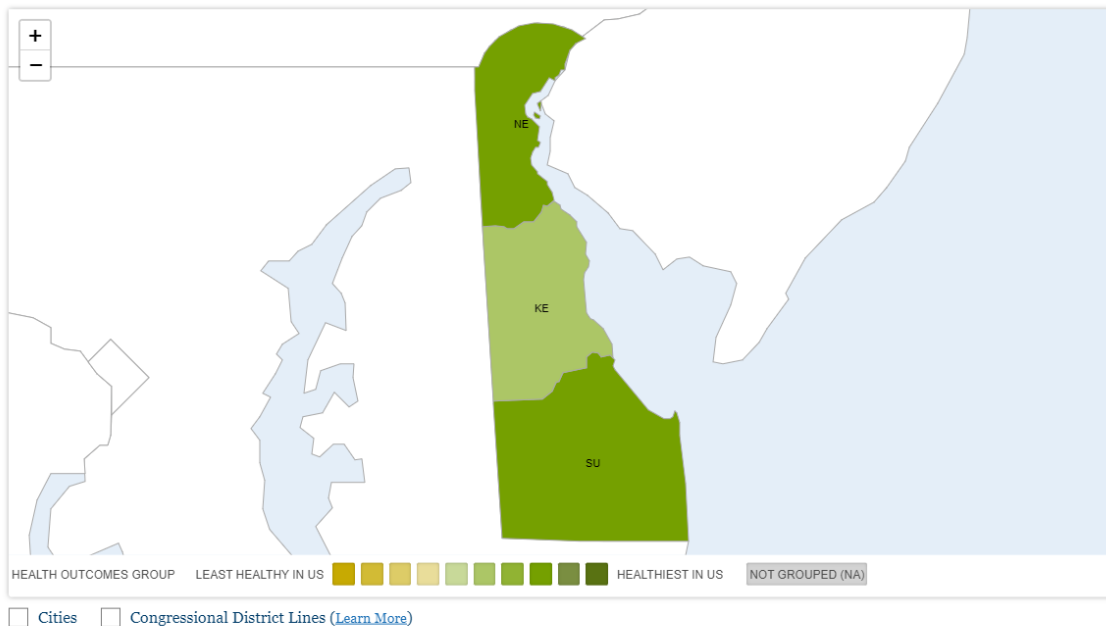
APHA is hosting almost a [dozen NPHW events](#) this year. They're all free, but registration is required. [RSVP today.](#)

2024 County Health Rankings Report



County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

2024 Health Outcomes - Delaware



Discover the latest insights into the health of your county with newly updated resources! In the [2024 Annual Data Release](#), significant enhancements have been introduced to empower communities towards better health outcomes:

- **Refined Assessment Tool:** Bid farewell to traditional ranking methods! A more precise tool has been introduced to evaluate county health status relative to others within the state and nationwide.
- **Enhanced County Health Snapshot:** Gain a deeper understanding of your county's health landscape with enriched contextual information. Explore links to identify Indigenous nations native to the land, along with brief descriptions connecting counties to cities and

neighborhoods impacted by redlining.

- Expanded Data Collection: The collection of over 80 health-related measures has been bolstered, now including data for additional racialized groups, ensuring a more comprehensive understanding of health disparities.

Delaware-specific data:

- Adult Health Perception: In Delaware, 14% of adults reported considering themselves in fair or poor health, ranging from 13% to 16% across counties in the state.
- Years of Life Lost: Delaware experienced 8,600 years of life lost to deaths of people under age 75 per 100,000 people, with variations ranging from 8,400 to 9,500 across counties in the state.
- Clinical Care Discrepancy: Notably, Delaware data showed some disparities compared to the national average, particularly in clinical care. The ratio of population to dentists in Delaware was 2,180:1, contrasting with the national ratio of 1360:1.

Moreover, the [2024 National Findings Report](#) sheds light on the intrinsic link between thriving communities and civic participation. Building inclusive community spaces where everyone can engage, stay informed, and voice their opinions is pivotal for fostering healthy communities and upholding democracy. This year's report delves into the significance of accessible spaces for connection and information, emphasizing the importance of local news, broadband access, and public libraries.

Healthcare Student Loan Program

Attention Delaware Residents Pursuing Careers in the Healthcare Field!

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE
Healthcare Workforce Initiative

DHF Delaware Health Force

Funded by the Delaware American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for shortages in the healthcare field due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Loan amount averages between \$2,500 to \$15,000 annually. Don't let money be a barrier to a rewarding career in healthcare!

TO APPLY, VISIT:
delamed.org/student-financial-aid/

CONTACT:
Giselle Bermudez, MS,
Student Financial Aid Coordinator
gbermudez@delamed.org
(302) 733-1122

INTEREST FREE LOANS
for Delaware Residents, attending Delaware Institutions of higher learning, who are willing to commit to working in Delaware after graduation for a set period of time.
Loans available for nursing, physician assistant, behavioral health, dental and medical tech, and many more.
Full Details at website.
Application open until funds are depleted

Se Habla Español!

This program is supported by State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds thru the Department of Treasury and State of Delaware [SLFRP0139].

DELAWARE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE
DPHA
DELAWARE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
Since 1930 - making a difference in Delaware

APPLY TODAY!

Unlock your potential with the Delaware Academy of Medicine's Student Financial Aid Program!

Don't let securing a no-interest loan* stand in the way of your goals! Are you passionate about nursing, physician assistant, behavioral health, dental, medical assisting, or other healthcare professions? We have great news for you! The Delaware

Academy of Medicine's SFA program is here to support your dreams and make your education more affordable than ever before.

Interest-free student loans*

(with a time-limited commitment to work in DE post-graduation based on degree or certification type the loan is financing)

Loan Amount ranges \$2,500 to \$15,000
Funds available until depleted

Apply Now!

Become a Member and Stay Connected!

Want to become a member?

Join today!



OR CLICK HERE

Additional Resources

Delaware Division of Public Health - [The DPH Bulletin](#)
Trust for America's Health: Wellness and Prevention Digest - [Subscribe](#)

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The Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association
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