

Mentorship Program

The **World Congress on Public Health's Mentorship Program** provides a structured mentorship opportunity for students and early-career professionals in public health. Participants indicate their areas of interest when registering through the Congress website, enabling personalized mentor-mentee matching.

Key Features

- **Personalized Mentorship:** Participants are paired with mentors based on their interests and career goals, ensuring tailored guidance.
- **Diverse Expertise:** Mentors include WFPHA and PHASA board members, Working Group chairs, senior leadership, and other public health experts, including from WFPHA members associations, offering a broad range of perspectives.
- **Flexible Format:** Mentoring interactions are primarily online, accommodating different time zones.
- **Duration:** The mentorship lasts **5 months** (April 2026 – Congress), with up to **10 Zoom sessions**, plus the possibility of an in-person meeting in Cape Town during the Congress. Mentors may guide multiple mentees at the same time if interests align. Mentees with similar interests can be mentored simultaneously in the same sessions, which can foster networking among young professionals, encourage multicultural exchanges, and allow the program to accommodate a larger number of mentees.
- **Focus Areas:** Public health research, policy, health equity, digital health, right to health, just to cite a few, and career development strategies (full list to be developed by topic area).

Eligibility

- Students and early-career professionals **below 35 years old**, or
- Within **10 years of completing a Master's or PhD** in public health or a related field.
- Only those **registered for the Congress by March 2026** and requesting mentorship are eligible.
- Depending on mentor availability, mentee participation may be **limited**, with selection on a **first-come, first-served basis**.

Key Dates

- Expression of interest submitted by mentees: by February 28, 2026
- Mentee registration deadline (Congress registration completed and fees paid): March 15, 2026
- Program duration: April–August 2026, with a possible in-person meeting in September 2026

This program is an excellent opportunity to expand professional networks, gain guidance from experienced public health leaders, and deepen understanding of key public health topics.