

Tufts' PREP Program prepares clinicians, researchers, and advocates to advance their careers and implement new models of more effective pain control.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- » *Are all students in the program full-time?*  
No, most students are taking the program part-time. For the convenience of learners enrolled in the program, most classes are scheduled in the late afternoon or early evening.
- » *What is the mix of students in the program?*  
The PREP program enjoys a diverse, interprofessional student body. Students range from seasoned clinicians in the healthcare professions, to students pursuing graduate education after recently completing their bachelor's program.
- » *Does PREP offer distance learning?*  
Yes, an ever-increasing number of PREP courses utilize a blended learning mode. Most of the courses we offer in this model commence with an intensive face-to-face session over 1-2 weekend days, followed by online learning.
- » *Can I start the program as a non-matriculated student?*  
Students may take up to two courses without applying to the program. These courses can later be applied toward a degree program upon admission.

[publichealth.tufts.edu/prep](http://publichealth.tufts.edu/prep)

### Program Director:

Daniel B. Carr, MD, FABPM,  
FFPMANZCA (Hon.)

### Academic Director:

Ylisabyth (Libby) Bradshaw DO, MS  
[libby.bradshaw@tufts.edu](mailto:libby.bradshaw@tufts.edu)  
617.636.6946

### Public Health and Professional Degree Admissions:

[publichealth.tufts.edu/admissions](http://publichealth.tufts.edu/admissions)  
[med-phpd@tufts.edu](mailto:med-phpd@tufts.edu)  
617.636.0935

*PREP is the first and only interprofessional postgraduate pain curriculum offered in the United States, and the only pain education program in the world based in a public health department.*

# Tufts

Tufts University School of Medicine  
Public Health and Professional Degree Programs  
136 Harrison Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

**Tufts** | School of  
UNIVERSITY | Medicine

## Public Health & Professional Degree Programs



MASTER OF SCIENCE -  
PAIN RESEARCH, EDUCATION  
AND POLICY PROGRAM (PREP)

*Setting the Standard in Pain Education*

## WHY STUDY PAIN?

- » **Wish to become expert in the increasingly important field of pain?**
- » **Want to update your practice or institution to make it compliant with emerging standards for pain assessment and treatment?**
- » **Interested in helping to shape public health policy to recognize that access to pain treatment is a fundamental right?**

## THE TUFTS ADVANTAGE

**The Pain Research, Education, and Policy (PREP) program** is unique both in the curriculum we offer and our emphasis on pain as a public health issue. We examine topics such as the neurobiology of pain; the ethical and sociocultural aspects of pain; palliative care and end of life; public policy and legislation; and advocacy and communication. We also address research methods, clinical issues, and the pharmacology of pain.

This interprofessional approach provides students with the sophisticated knowledge and practical skills necessary to take on the challenges and complexities of acute, cancer-related, and persistent pain. Many of our graduates have become leaders in their respective settings.



**“Improving the world of pain, one student at a time.”**

Daniel Carr, MD, FABPM, FFPANZCA (Hon.)  
Director, PREP Program

## PROGRAMS OF STUDY

PREP offers multiple educational opportunities for students interested in the study of pain. Additional cross-institutional programs are currently in development.

- » **Masters of Science, Pain Research, Education, and Policy**, 11 credits
- » **Joint MS-Pain Research, Education and Policy/Master in Acupuncture** with the New England School of Acupuncture, 11 credits
- » **Certificate in Advanced Study of Pain Topics, with a focus on Research, Education, or Policy**, 5 credits
- » **Certificate in Advanced Study of Pain Topics in Occupational Therapy**, 5 credit program in conjunction with Tufts' graduate degree programs in occupational therapy

## BLENDED ONLINE LEARNING

Professionals whose work involves pain issues can now take advantage of PREP's blended learning model. Spend a weekend at the Tufts Health Sciences Campus in downtown Boston and return home for online learning and exercises. PREP offers blended learning courses each semester. View a complete list of current offerings:

[go.tufts.edu/PREPOnline](http://go.tufts.edu/PREPOnline).

## WHO ENROLLS?

The PREP program welcomes all individuals interested in becoming leaders in their field by developing advanced competencies in the rapidly growing field of pain studies.

The program enrolls nurses, physicians, dentists, physical therapists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, researchers, acupuncturists, occupational therapists, massage therapists, social workers, palliative care providers, health advocates, and other professionals.

New and recent college graduates with the maturity to enter a graduate program are also accepted. An individual's work or personal experiences with pain are valued, but prior knowledge or specific experience with pain is not required.

## CURRICULUM

The PREP curriculum is based on helping clinicians and nonclinicians understand biological and psychosocial factors shaping the pain experience. Pain is placed in the broader context of culture, health care delivery, and practitioner responses to pain management. PREP is committed to the interprofessional education of pain leaders as the most effective way to enact social change and to translate research into policy.

