Welcome to the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health!

Ready to get started? Lace up your walking shoes, grab a coffee and let us introduce you to our dynamic community! This self-guided tour takes about an hour and rambles for 1.6 miles through the Bloomberg School and across the East Baltimore campus. At each stop, we’ll proudly tell you a little about our School, our history and our mission to protect health, save lives—millions at a time.

Notes: to further the public health goal of a more physically active society, we encourage you to take the stairs whenever possible. If stairs are a challenge for you, there are always elevators nearby. While in the Wolfe Street building, if you lose your way, there is a map in front of most elevators with a layout of that floor.

Start

We’ll begin in the Gallery of the Wolfe Street Building, in front of the double glass doors of Student Affairs (E1002—likely where you got this tour).

1. Walk toward the revolving doors of the Monument Street entrance and turn right into the corridor. Across from the elevators is a first floor directory and an illustration of how the school has grown.

Since its founding in 1916, the Bloomberg School has advanced research, education and practice to create solutions to public health problems around the world.

Our home is the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions (JHMI) campus in East Baltimore. We share that home with the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The Bloomberg School is primarily located in two buildings: the Wolfe Street building (where you are now) and Hampton House (at the intersection of Broadway and Monument Street). Some of our research institutes and administrative offices reside in row houses located nearby.

The Wolfe Street building is where the majority of classes and School events are held. It’s grown to occupy the entire city block and is nine stories tall. Academic offices located within the Wolfe Street building include the Office of Graduate Education and Research, Office of Research Administration, seven of our ten academic departments and the MPH Program Office.

2. Walk back through the Gallery and stop again at the glass doors to Student Affairs (E1002). This suite includes the Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Admission Services, Financial Aid, Operations, and Records & Registration. Career Services, Student Disability, Student Life and SOURCE (Student Outreach Resource Center) are also within Student Affairs, but are located in a nearby row house (2017 E. Monument Street).

Continue walking through the Gallery toward enormous panel of TVs known as the Wall of Wonder. The Wall regularly presents important public health information, as well as the occasional broadcast of world and major sporting events. The area beneath the wall hosts portions of the Career Fair, Orientation’s Information Fair, receptions and many other school events.

3. Turn right into the corridor and take about a dozen steps. To the right is Sheldon Hall (W1214), the School’s 2nd largest lecture hall with a capacity of 198 students. It’s used for special events, classes, seminars, and symposiums. Some of these events are open to the public and some are broadcast on the web.

If the lecture hall is empty, feel free to take a peek inside.

Leaving Sheldon, on the opposite side of the corridor, are glass cases housing public health artifacts. See if you can find William Welch’s microscope or George Comstock’s UNICEF bag.

4. When you’re done, proceed through the corridor to the Courtyard. On your left is the Becton-Dickinson Lecture Hall (W1020). This hall is primarily used for introductory courses required of most students. Rest assured, these large lecture halls are not the norm for Bloomberg School classes. Our average class size is twenty and we’ll see where these smaller classes take place later in our tour.

In the Courtyard you’ll also notice green, yellow and red bins for recycling, composting and trash. JHSPH students, faculty and staff help with sustainability efforts by making proper use of the bins and using reusable water bottles and travel mugs. The green, yellow and red bins are found on every floor of the Wolfe Street building by the north and south elevators and in the west corridors. The bins may also be found in the Hampton House café.

5. Directly across from Becton-Dickinson is the Student Lounge (W1008). This area provides students with a place to meet, study, and relax. It’s also
the regular gathering place for our student
run Friday Happy Hour.

6 The Student Accounts and Business
Services Office (W1101), located
through the glass doors in the student
lounge, collects payment of tuition and
fees, administers the School’s Student
Health Plan, and provides a notary service
to students and staff.

Leave the Student Lounge through the
same doorway you entered and turn right.

Bulletin boards in the hallway announce
doctoral dissertation seminars, workshops,
funding opportunities, couches for sale and
the activities of the Student Assembly and
over 30 student organizations.

The Student Assembly is involved in a
variety of activities, and sponsors numerous
seminars and forums covering social,
professional, and academic concerns of
students. The Student Assembly hosts
several exciting social events throughout
the year, including the Welcoming Party,
Winter Gala, and the ever-popular Annual
Harbor Cruise.

7 Walk past the bulletin boards.
Directly in front of you is the
MPH Program Office (W1015). This
office supports over 250 full-time and
approximately 450 Part-time/Internet-
based students.

Turn left and continue past the Wolfe Street
entrance lobby. This is the original
entrance to the building.

8 On your left is the Anna M. Baetjer
Room (W1030) used for lectures and
School events. The room is dedicated to
Anna Baetjer, ScD ‘24, an alumna, who
was dedicated to studying the effects of
the environment. She was among the
first scientists to identify the relationship
between occupation and lung cancer. Her
expertise made her a valuable consultant
for the private sector and groups like the
World Health Organization.

9 Continue down the hall to the bend.
On your right is the office of the
Dean, Michael J. Klag, MD, MPH ‘87. Dr.
Klag was named Dean of the Bloomberg
School on September 1, 2005. He is
a pioneer in the epidemiology of kidney
disease, discovering its prevalence and risk
factors and providing a basis for designing
effective interventions. He has also focused
on the role of ethnicity in disease, seeking
explanations for the different risks of
developing high blood pressure among
ethnic groups.

Continue past the Mail Room until you get
to the stairwell marked by a red door on
your right.

Here at the School of Public Health, we
encourage you to take the stairs whenever
possible. Taking the stairs saves energy
and increases your own activity. The next
leg of our tour is to hike up these stairs
to the third floor (if you’re unable to use
the stairs, there is an elevator behind you,
between the Mail Room and multimedia
studios).

10 To your left is the Residency
Programs Office (W-B602), which
includes the General Preventive Medicine
Residency and Occupational Residency
programs.

Turn right and proceed through the red
door.

11 The multimedia
recording studios
are located in this
hallway. This is where
the School’s podcasts,
webinars and online
courses are recorded.

Other School services on this floor include
the Mail Room (W-B040) and Mother’s
Room for nursing mothers.

Continue down the hall. The
School’s Mail
Room on your right
provides students
and staff with fax,
interoffice and U.S.
mail services. This
office also administers student lockers. An
additional Mail Room is located in the foyer
of Hampton House.

As you turn left around the bend, the
Public Health Boardroom is on your right.
Continue down the hall and turn left
through the red stairwell door. Proceed
downstairs to the basement.

12 Exit the stairwell at the third
floor. This is the Information
Systems (IS) hallway. IS serves as the
central computing resource for the School,
providing information and support for the
instructional, research, and administrative
computing needs of students, faculty, and
staff.

Look to the right of the stairs and you’ll
see the IS Client Support office (W3014).
This office accepts walk-in appointments,
Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5
p.m., and Saturday, 11 a.m. to noon.

Turn left and walk past the computer labs
in W3017 and W3025. Continue around
the bend and enter the red stairwell door
on your left. Proceed to the Fourth Floor.

13 Exit the stairwell left and walk
down the hall. Pass the elevators
and east corridor and continue to the South
Reading Room (E4530) on your left.

The reading room is intended to be a
quiet space for students to study and work
without interruption. There are two reading
rooms located on the east side of the fourth
floor. Both are open 24 hours a day.

14 Exit the elevator left and
continue past the booths to the
windows overlooking the Baltimore Harbor.
From here, you can see the neighborhoods
of Fells Point and Canton, as well as the
School of Nursing and Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Continue to enjoy the view as you continue to the JHSPH Fitness Center, an annex of the larger, Cooley Center Gymnasium. The annex is open to those with a Cooley Center membership and is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Cooley membership is free to full-time students.

Open the glass door and continue down the windowed hallway, pass the locker rooms to the gym.

If you wish, exit the glass door to the ninth floor patio. This area is popular on sunny days for lunch and studying.

Turn around and walk back through the gym the way you came. Walk past the elevators and into Jay’s Café. The Café is open weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The seating area is always open and available to students, faculty, and staff.

Return the way you came and exit the Café. Take the elevator to the 2nd floor.

15 Exit the elevators left and continue around the bend to the corridor on your left. Proceed to Feinstone Hall (E2030) on your right. Feinstone Hall is an open, multi-purpose space used for special events and receptions. The room is dedicated to W. Harry Feinstone, ScD ‘39, an alumnus of the School and retired pharmaceutical researcher and executive. His generosity and endowments created the Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology.

Continue down the hall to the open seating space of the 2nd floor mezzanine. On the wall to your right you’ll notice a number of artistic renditions of international proverbs that inspired the School’s 2004 award-winning publication, Saving Lives Millions at a Time.

16 Continue following this hall. On your right is Sommer Hall (E2014), our largest auditorium with a capacity of 350 students. Opened in Summer 2004, it’s named after Alfred Sommer, MD, MHS ’73, dean emeritus of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

17 Exit the auditorium and continue to your right. Take a deep breath. Smell good? You’re standing in the Daily Grind, our in-school coffee shop, open for business weekdays, 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Continue past the coffee shop and look to the wall on your left. Beside the water fountain is one of our newly installed water filtration systems. If you have a water bottle, now is the time to top it off and contribute to the number of disposable bottles saved.

Turn around and walk back past Sommer Hall, and turn right as the hall opens. Walk past the computer kiosks, to your right, followed by a seating area overlooking the gallery where you began the tour.

18 On the wall directly to the right of the seating area you will notice a portrait of Michael Bloomberg, mayor of New York City and 1964 graduate of the Johns Hopkins University. In 2001, the School officially changed its name to recognize Mr. Bloomberg’s commitment and support to the success of the School and University.

Continue walking past the stairs and through the next corridor. You will find student lockers, more seating, and additional computer kiosks available 24 hours for student use.

At the intersection, turn left and exit through the red door to the stairwell on your left. Proceed to the 1st Floor.

Exit the stairwell left until you see the steps down to the Wolfe Street entrance (at the guard’s desk on your right).

19 Exit onto Wolfe Street, turn left and walk down to the intersection of Wolfe and McElderry Streets.

Across McElderry is the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. The School of Nursing is nationally recognized and focuses on community health nursing and work in Baltimore’s inner city. Each year the School of Nursing and Bloomberg School of Public Health enroll approximately ten students in the joint MPH/MSN program.

20 Across Wolfe Street is the world-renowned Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The original Hospital opened in 1889, followed four years later by the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. The schools of Public Health, Medicine, and Nursing “share” a number of faculty and collaborate in many areas of research.

The Hospital is home to the Brady Urological Institute, Johns Hopkins Children’s Center, Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Transplant Center, Johns Hopkins Heart and Vascular Institute, the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Wilmer Eye Institute. Also on campus is the Kennedy Krieger Institute. Other Johns Hopkins Medicine member hospitals include the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Howard County General Hospital, Sibley Memorial Hospital, Suburban Hospital and All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburgh, Florida.

The Hospital has undergone (and is still undergoing) a tremendous renovation. Two new towers: the Sheikh Zayed Tower and the Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children’s Center opened May 2012.
Let’s go explore.

Cross Wolfe Street and enter the Hospital through the corner entrance. Until recently, the main Hospital entrance was the circle on McElderry. This area is now under construction and a much bigger entrance with access to emergency rooms has been built on Orleans.

In front of you is a guard desk. The hallway to the left leads down a windowed arcade. The ID Office is located off this hallway in Harvey/Nelson 108 (new students attending the Bloomberg School will be provided with an ID badge at new student orientation).

Walk down the windowed arcade.

21 At the large intersection, turn to your left and follow the hallway past a seating area, Gift Shop and ATMs. This is part of the “Main Loop” of the Hospital, a series of major corridors marked with gold-lettered signs.

Move from the old building to the new and refresh your coffee if needed at Grand Grounds, a coffee shop on your right. Continue to the intersection of the Main Loop with the Arcade.

22 Stop at the intersection and look to your left. This portion of the Main Loop is called the Arcade and includes another gift shop, a pharmacy and the Garden Bistro, a mini food court with a sunny dining area. You may also access an outdoor patio with tables and benches for an open air meal.

23 Across from the elevator bank, is the new main entrance.

This new larger drive boasts separate entrances for adult and child emergencies and valet parking is available for visitors.

Continue down the Main Loop. Walk past the pedestrian bridge to the Orleans Garage and enter the Weinberg building. Follow the Main Loop as it turns right.

24 The Loop now passes through the world renowned Wilmer Eye Institute. Keep walking and to your left you’ll see the entrance to the underground corridor to the Johns Hopkins Outpatient Center. This underground corridor also has an entrance to the Metro, the Baltimore subway system.

25 Keep on the Main Loop until you reach the next major intersection. Look to your right, down a long corridor and you’ll see one of the first intersections you crossed in the hospital. This corridor also has entrances to two more hospitals eateries: the Tower Terrace restaurant and the Cobblestone Café food court. There is also a small florist.

26 In front of you, past the Information desk is a display outlining the history of Johns Hopkins Hospital. If you’re interested, go and take a look. Or turn left through the narrow door into the original building of the Hospital. Walk around the back of the staircase and stop next to the Christ statue, under the dome.

You are standing in the Billings Administration Building, one of the original Hospital structures. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

The Hospital was the first in the country equipped with central heating. It is rumored that it was from this building that the term “making the rounds” was first used as physicians had to climb a winding staircase that exited at each floor into the circular hallway under the dome.

The 10 1/2-foot Carrara marble Christ statue was donated in 1896. Why the nonsectarian Hospital acquired the religious symbol is open to speculation. Through the years, young Hopkins doctors have rubbed the statue’s toes for good luck and patients often pray before it. It has become a symbol of compassion and hope, for those of many faiths.

27 To the right of the entrance to the rotunda is a painting of Johns Hopkins, a Quaker merchant from Baltimore. In 1867, Johns Hopkins arranged for the incorporation of The Johns Hopkins University and The Johns Hopkins Hospital, and for the appointment of a twelve-member board of trustees for each. He died on Christmas Eve 1873, leaving $7 million to be divided equally between the two institutions. It was, at the time, the largest philanthropic bequest in U.S. history.

Many people ask about the “s” in “Johns?” Hopkins’ peculiar first name was simply a family affair; it was his great-grandmother’s maiden name.

28 Walk past the painting of Johns Hopkins and exit the Hospital. Stop at the top of the steps.

Broadway is the street running left to right. The exterior entrance to the Metro is in the median. Across Broadway on the left is the Outpatient building which contains the Grille 601 Café and a pharmacy.

To the left of the Outpatient building, further down Broadway, is the 550 Building where some of the School’s faculty offices are located.

To the right of the Outpatient Center is McElderry Street, a brick road. This block of McElderry Street is not accessible to cars and is the site of many warm weather
A variety of food vendors including fresh fruit and vegetables, deli meats and sandwiches, baked goods, and a plethora of over-the-counter foods. The market is located in the 2100 block of East Monument Street.

Cross Monument Street and turn right to the Monument Street entrance of the Wolfe Street building.

Stop

You’re finished! Thank you for taking our tour. We hope you enjoyed our campus and learned more about the opportunities and community here at Johns Hopkins.

Prospective Students may also visit our JHSPH admissions blog. Visit www.jhsph.edu/admissions to find a wealth of resources at any time.

Email us any time at admiss@jhsph.edu. Phone inquiries may be made weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., to discuss the application process. Admission Services accepts walk-in appointments weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., to 410-955-3543.

Want to Learn More?