

Dear SSPH+ Community,

Welcome to the January edition of the SSPH+ Newsletter! As we begin 2026, we share important updates, upcoming events, and new opportunities at SSPH+.

SSPH+ NEWS

SSPH+ Public Health Program 2025

SSPH+ successfully concluded the fifth edition of the Public Health Program in collaboration with Chambers in Latin America (LatAm) and Mexico. The program included six online sessions (2 hours each), delivered in English with simultaneous translation, and took place in October and November 2025. The sessions were taught by SSPH+ faculty members and engaged participants from across Latin America.

The program concluded with a final session held at the Senate of the Republic in Mexico, marking the first time the closing session took place in a legislative setting. SSPH+ looks forward to continuing its collaboration with Chambers in LatAm and Mexico in the years ahead.



SSPH+ COURSES

Upcoming SSPH+ IGC Courses in April and May 2026

Applied Bayesian Methods in Epidemiology and Public Health (Intermediate)

- Dates: 14–16 April 2026
- Location: University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI)
- Registration deadline: 14 March 2026
- Course flyer: [here](#)

Understanding Social Inequalities and Social Problems in Health (basic)

- Dates: 20–22 April 2026
- Location: University of Fribourg and Swiss TPH
- Registration deadline: 20 March 2026
- Course flyer: [here](#)

Epidemiological Concepts, Principles, and Methods: A Practice-oriented Introduction (basic)

- Dates: 27 April – 1 May 2026
- Location: University of Lausanne, Unisanté
- Course format: On site
- Registration deadline: 27 March 2026
- Course flyer: [here](#)

For more details and to register, please visit [Course Program & More Info](#).

All courses in March are fully booked. However, you may register for the waiting lists by emailing phdph@ssphplus.ch, as places may still become available.

SSPH+ Emerging Health Leaders (EHL): Skills Training & Leadership Courses

Date: Thursday, 16 April 2026 | Place: Luzern

SAVE THE DATE! We are working hard to prepare for the next EHL Course on 16 April 2026 given by Carl Emerson (InsideOut Solutions). More info coming soon at [the EHL page](#) – stay tuned.

SSPH+ EVENTS

SSPH+ Annual Meeting 2026

June 23-24, 2026 | from noon to noon | University of Fribourg

The meeting agenda and registration will open soon. The upcoming “**Protecting Science – Protecting Health**” SSPH+ Annual Meeting, hosted by the University of Fribourg, will take place on June 23–24, 2026. More information will be available on the [Events page](#) and shared via email soon.

38th Residential 3-week Summer Course in Epidemiology

15 June–3 July 2026 | Florence, Italy

The course is intended for epidemiologists, statisticians, clinicians and public health practitioners with an interest in **epidemiology**. During the first two weeks, the course offers five general modules on epidemiological study design and statistical analysis of epidemiological data. In the third week, seven special modules on topics of current relevance for health and advanced methodological issues are offered. In addition, specialized one-week courses are offered in the fourth week, following the main program. The course is taught in English. [See more info here.](#)



Last call to submit your abstract for the Swiss Public Health Conference 2026

2–3 September 2026 | University of Lucerne | Deadline to submit: 1 February 2026

The SPHC 2026 Call for abstracts is open until 1 February 2026! We invite researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, patient advocates, and all those engaged in public health to explore how complexity enriches public health. We welcome contributions that connect science with practice, data with lived experience, and different disciplines in meaningful dialogue. Submissions may be **research or practice-based** and can take the form of **oral presentations, posters, or interactive workshops**. Innovative formats and interdisciplinary perspectives are strongly encouraged. Abstracts may be submitted in English, German, or French. [See more info here.](#)

Please note that SSPH+ IGC PhD students submitting research-based abstract for oral presentation will be considered for the SSPH+ Best Abstract Award.



SSPH+ CALLS

SSPH+ Journals Open Calls

Important Update: SSPH+ affiliates will continue to receive APC discounts from the two SSPH+ Journals this year. Manuscripts submitted to IJPH or PHR during 2026 with successful peer-review and with at least one author affiliated with SSPH+ (at the time of submission) will receive a 50% APC discount. For full details, see [here](#).

The International Journal of Public Health ([IJPH](#)) and Public Health Reviews ([PHR](#)) currently have the following open calls for papers:

- [Armed Conflicts, Wars and Mental Health](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 July 2026
- [Public Health Diplomacy in a Complex World](#) - Manuscript Deadline 30 June 2026
- [The effects of wine in moderation in the context of Mediterranean or other healthy diets](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 12 February 2026
- [Urban Health in Transition: Advancing Evidence and Policy for Healthier Cities](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 March 2026
- [Evidence-Based Supported Employment and Education for Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 March 2026
- [Advances in Public Health Leadership](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 28 February 2026
- [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) and Public Health](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 30 June 2026
- [Metrics of One Health](#) - Abstract Deadline: 15 March 2026 | Manuscript Deadline: 31 May 2026
- [Strengthening the Public Health Response to Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 15 January 2027

SSPH+ PARTNER COURSES AND EVENTS

6th Fribourg Winter School in Data Analytics & Machine Learning – Registration Open

2–13 February 2026 | University of Fribourg | Registration Deadline: 26 January 2026

The 6th Fribourg Winter School in Data Analytics and Machine Learning will take place from 2–13 February 2026, at the University of Fribourg, with both on-site and online participation available. [Registration is open](#) and places are still available.

The Winter School offers one- to three-day courses on predictive and causal analysis, covering both introductory and advanced topics using Python, R, Julia, and KNIME. **Registration is open until 26 January 2026 and the SSPH+ IGC PhD students receive 50% discount on the registration fee.** To receive the discount, please reach out to: karin.loetscher@unifr.ch. More information is available [here](#).



Grant Writing for Quantitative Economics, Social Sciences, and Public Health

Three full days in February, April, and May 2026 | University of Basel | Registration Deadline: 3 February 2026

The University of Basel Graduate Center is organizing a grant writing course aimed at PhD students and postdocs in public health, psychology, sociology, political science, epidemiology, economics, and related fields. It focuses on key aspects of successful grant writing for quantitative research, including funding strategies aligned with career goals, research design and feasibility, idea selection, proposal structure, and eligibility criteria. A central feature of the course is the opportunity for participants to present and receive detailed feedback on their own proposal ideas in an interdisciplinary setting. **Note: Eligible SSPH+ IGC students can attend free of charge.** More info [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE: Population Health Monitoring Meeting

5 March 2026 | The Swiss Federal Statistical Office

The Population Health Monitoring Meeting is taking place on 5 March 2026 at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office in Neuchâtel. Organized by the OBSAN, PHS/SSPH+, and the #PopHealthlab, this year's meeting will be centered around the theme: Health Equity Report: From Data to Analysis. Stay tuned for further details on [the program and registration](#).

SAVE THE DATE: Causal Inference Symposium

18 March 2026 | University of Fribourg

The Causal Inference Symposium is taking place on 18 March 2026 at the University of Fribourg. Building on the success of previous editions, this year's symposium will focus on Causal Machine Learning and its applications in health sciences and health economics. More information [here](#).

1st European Congress on Education and Training in Public Health

15-18 July 2026 | Milan, Italy

An exciting new event is coming: the 1st European Congress on Education and Training in Public Health, taking place 15–18 July 2026 in Milan. The Congress will feature the 2026 Deans' & Directors' Retreat and will be a key highlight of [ASPHER](#)'s 60th Anniversary.

The Congress aims to advance the quality and capacity of public health education across Europe and will bring together leaders, educators, and professionals committed to shaping the future of the field. [The call for abstracts is open until 28 February 2026](#).

OTHER CALLS

Transforming Health and Care Systems (THCS) Joint Transnational Call (JTC) – “Access to Care”

Deadline for submission: 02 February 2026

THCS has launched its fourth Joint Transnational Call (JTC) for proposals. The call supports research and innovation projects that promote equitable access to health and care services and equip policymakers with evidence and tools for effective resource reallocation, particularly during health and care system transitions. 32 funding agencies are participating, with an indicative budget of €35 million. [More info here.](#)

Open Call: Exploratory Public Health Research Mission

Deadline for submission: 31 January 2026

The Leading House Latin America, mandated by SERI and hosted by the University of St. Gallen, has launched a call for an Exploratory Public Health Research Mission to Brazil and Cuba. The initiative aims to connect researchers from Swiss and Latin American universities and foster new collaborations in public health research.

The mission will take place June 8–19, 2026, including visits to research institutions in Rio de Janeiro and Havana. The Leading House will cover major costs, including international travel, accommodation, and local transport. SSPH+ members are encouraged to apply and explore potential research partnerships in Latin America. You can find more info [here](#).

Let's Connect!

Stay connected with us for more updates and insights! You can follow SSPH+ on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#) to stay up-to-date with our latest activities, or visit our [News](#) and [Jobs](#) pages for more opportunities.

Are you hiring or organizing an event relevant to our community? We would love to help you spread the word – contact us at mdavidovic@ssphplus.ch.