



Journal of Public Health in the Deep South
Call for Submissions for a Special Issue
Maternal Mortality

The Mississippi Public Health Association (MPHA), in partnership with Mississippi State University (MSU), initiated the *Journal of Public Health in the Deep South* (JPHDS) in 2018. The JPHDS is a peer-reviewed, open-access, online journal focused on disseminating high-quality research and/or effective applied techniques to academicians, educators, and practitioners. The JPHDS is the first publication to specifically focus on public health issues in this geographical space and with an appeal to both research and applied public health professionals and educators with emphases on research, practice, and teaching. The JPHDS is the official journal of MPHA and is hosted by MSU.

MPHA is issuing a call for submissions for a special issue focused on maternal mortality. This public health issue has been identified by the State Health Officer as a priority for the state of Mississippi. The Alliance for the Innovation on Maternal (AIM) Health Initiative supports state capacity to implement AIM patient safety bundles and expand the reach, depth, and quality via facilities implementing the bundles. These efforts are designed to meet the intent of the national legislation which is “identifying, developing, or disseminating best practices to improve maternal health care quality and outcomes, improve maternal and infant health, and eliminate preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity.” The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) administers the AIM Health Initiative. This special issue of the JPHDS will assist the AIM Initiative in improve maternal and infant health.

This issue of the JPHDS will focus on research papers, case studies; and specially solicited commentaries that further elucidate research and best and promising practices related to maternal mortality in Mississippi and for the Deep South. Articles for this special issue can include:

- Research or scientific manuscripts in full or brief reports
- Case studies
- Commentaries and editorials
- Review Article

Guest editors for this issue will be Dr. Vernesia Wilson, Director Maternal and Infant Bureau, MS Department of Health and Dr. Jaleen Sims, CEO, Graceful Planning Vice President, Sims Foundation of H.O.P.E.

Submission Process

For author guidelines, please see this link:

[Journal of Public Health in the Deep South: Final Manuscript Preparation Guidelines](#)

For author submissions, please see this link:

https://scholarsjunction.msstate.edu/cgi/login.cgi?return_to=https%3A%2F%2Fscholarsjunction.msstate.edu%2Fcgi%2Fsubmit.cgi%3Fcontext%3Djphds&context=jphds

Timeline

A webinar will be held on **February 11, 2025, at 4pm central time** to provide potential authors with guidance and to answer any questions. The webinar link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82970670267?pwd=SPa8aXyo8wJuazhiKcBQ9fOje3MzoV.1>

Meeting ID: 829 7067 0267

Passcode: 403090

Attendance at the webinar is not required to submit an article, but the information will provide helpful guidance.

The issue portal will be opened on February 12, 2025, for submissions to be uploaded. It will close on March 19, 2025.

The special issue is expected to be finalized in time for publication in the late spring 2025.
