



University Diploma (DU) in Development and Organization of Mental Health Services

3rd Edition
2026

Institut supérieur de santé publique
Faculté de médecine

Campus des sciences médicale | Rue de Damas
BP. 5076-11 Riad El Solh Beyrouth 2180 1107

☎ 01-421000 ext. 2270 ✉ issp@usj.edu.lb  [issp.usj](https://www.facebook.com/issp.usj)  [issp.usj](https://www.instagram.com/issp.usj)

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The **Higher Institute of Public Health (ISSP)** at the Saint Joseph University of Beirut (USJ) is pleased to invite you to take part in the third edition of the **University Diploma (DU) in Development and Organization of Mental Health Services**.

This diploma provides an updated and solid understanding of the main concepts in development and organization of mental health services. It is in line with the [National Mental Health Strategy \(2024-2030\)](#), which aims to reform Lebanon’s mental health system toward community-based mental health services, and which envisions building and investing in qualified human resources as a key pillar of health systems.

General Information

The diploma comprises several modules totaling 24 ECTS credits, spans 2 semesters, and employs blended learning modalities (on-campus and online).

Classes are set to begin in March 2026. Applications are open until January 30, 2026.

Program director: Prof. Michèle Koserelli Asmar (ISSP)

Academic coordinator: Dr. Firas Yassine (ISSP)

Module	Cr.
Introduction to Global Mental Health	1
Leadership, Communication, and Stakeholder Engagement in Mental Health	2
Mental Health Law, Policy, and Human Rights	4
Health Systems and Organization of Mental Health Services	4
Actions on Substance Use and Substance Use Disorders	2
Research in Mental Health	2
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Situations	4
Project Management, Monitoring, and Evaluation	2
Integrative Learning Project	3
Total	24

The goal of this diploma is to build the capacity of health professionals (physicians, psychologists, social workers, nurses, etc.) as well as program managers, directors of health facilities, training coordinators, and others on developing, implementing, and evaluating mental health services at the different levels of care, in line with human rights and community- and evidence-based approaches.

The focus of the courses will be on:

- Understanding evidence and evidence-based interventions
- Optimal mix of mental health services
- The pivotal role of community mental health services
- Deinstitutionalization: experiences and controversies
- Rehabilitation and recovery
- Mental health law and human rights and the rights of people with mental disabilities
- Substance use response Policies
- Mental health in complex emergencies

Application and Registration

Target audience

Interested candidates from Lebanon and the MENA region are encouraged to apply, provided they have prior training in a health-related field such as medicine (general practice, psychiatry, or family medicine), public health, nursing, pharmacy, psychology, nutrition, social sciences, or law.

Selection criteria

Applicants must hold a bachelor degree or equivalent qualification in either of the fields specified above. Proficiency in English is required. A master’s degree and prior working experience are a plus.

Application procedure

Interested candidates should submit a filled-out application form ([click here](#)), along with all required supporting documents.

For more information, you may contact us by email at issp@usj.edu.lb and / or firas.yassine1@usj.edu.lb, or by calling +961-1-421000 ext. 2370.

Candidates will be evaluated based on the content of their applications, motivation letter, and CVs, in addition to a selection interview.

Fees

The cost per credit is set at 220 USD, making the total cost of the diploma 5,280 USD per student. There is the possibility for partial scholarships, which will be decided upon application on a case by case basis.

Attendance

Enrolled students are required to attend all course-work sessions as per USJ’s internal study regulations.