

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES (STEM)

Graduates of the PhD program in translational health sciences generate, implement, and disseminate evidence to improve health and healthcare. They work across organizational barriers to engage a range of stakeholders—including scientists, policymakers, and consumers—in identifying, designing, and testing innovations in everyday healthcare practice and education. The program prepares change leaders in three areas: professional healthcare education, healthcare practice, and translational research. It is targeted primarily toward licensed health practitioners, educators, healthcare administrators, and public health professionals who are interested in affecting positive change in human health.

The program requires 54 credits beyond a master's degree, successful completion of a comprehensive examination, a proposal defense, and a defended dissertation. The curriculum is low residency, with facilitated learning activities delivered online and on-campus (two weekends per semester) at the Virginia Science and Technology Campus in Ashburn, Virginia.

This is a STEM designated program.

Visit the program website (<https://smhs.gwu.edu/bulletin/smhs/graduate-programs/phd-translational-health-sciences/>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

Admissions Fall - December 1

Deadlines:

The application and all supporting documentation (fees, statement of purpose, letters of recommendation, transcripts) must be received by the deadline in order for the application to be reviewed.

Standardized Test Scores: Not required

Recommendations: Two (2) letters of recommendation.

Recommendations should be from an academic instructor who can strongly attest to your academic ability and/or someone who has served in a supervisory capacity for you and can strongly attest to your work ethic. Recommendations from family and friends are not accepted.

Prior Academic Records: Official transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended (including via dual enrollment), whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Official transcripts must be forwarded in their original sealed envelopes or sent electronically directly from the institution.

If academic records are in a language other than English, a certified English language translation must be provided in addition to the original transcripts; translations alone will not be accepted.

Official transcripts from institutions outside the U.S. must be accompanied by an official transcript evaluation from an accredited independent evaluating agency. Please be sure you request a detailed evaluation that includes all course titles, credit hours, grades, U.S. degree equivalency, grade-point averages (GPA), and date of degree conferral. For a list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services, please follow this link: <https://www.naces.org/members> (<https://www.naces.org/members/>).

Statement of Purpose: In an essay of 1,000 words or less, describe your interest in undertaking study at The George Washington University, your academic objectives, potential dissertation topic, career goals, and related qualifications. Please highlight any of your related qualifications and achievements— including academic, community, professional, or extra-curricular activities relevant to your program of interest. Include any substantial accomplishments not already mentioned within the application.

Degree and GPA Requirements: A graduate degree or entry-level professional doctorate in a biomedical science or health-related field from an accredited institution

Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale.

Prerequisites: 3 semester units each of graduate-level epidemiology and biostatistics completed with a grade of B or higher; B- is insufficient.

Additional Requirement: Resume is required.

Evidence of academic preparation in basic research methods and statistics.

Evidence of health-related practice, leadership, or research.

International Students: International students should check with individual programs regarding eligibility for visa sponsorship. Generally, online and hybrid programs are not eligible for student visa sponsorship from GW. This would include transfer students from any other institution with an existing visa.

Official transcripts from institutions outside the U.S. must be accompanied by an official transcript evaluation from an accredited independent evaluating agency. Please be sure you request a detailed evaluation that includes all course titles, credit hours, grades, U.S. degree equivalency, grade-point averages (GPA), and date of degree conferral. For a list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services, please click here (<https://www.naces.org/members.php>).

Applicants who are not U.S. citizens are required to submit official test scores for either Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or#Pearsons#Test of English (PTE), Academic the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Duolingo English Test (DET). The following are the minimum scores for admission consideration:#TOEFL: 600 on paper based, 250 on computer-based, or 100 Internet-based, PTE: overall score of 68, IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0, with no individual band score below 6.0, or DET overall score of 120. \*Scores can be no older than 2 years.

International applicants who meet the following conditions may be considered for admission without submitting TOEFL, PTE or IELTS or DET scores:#They are a citizen of countries where English is the official language (as identified by GW ISO list of Exempt countries) OR; They hold at least a#bachelor#degree from a country where English is the official language as well as language of instruction OR; They hold at least a#bachelor#degree from an institution accredited by a U.S. regional accrediting agency.

**Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:**

George Washington University

ATTN: Transcript Processing Center  
1415 W 22<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Suite 220  
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Documents may be submitted electronically to: transcripts@hsprograms.gwu.edu.

**Contact for questions:**

hsphora@gwu.edu  
202-994-0384 (phone)  
Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

**REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 54 credits, successful completion of a comprehensive examination, a proposal defense, and a defended dissertation.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
THS 8101	Foundations in Translational Health Sciences	
THS 8103	Principles of Collaboration and Team Science	

THS 8105	Translational Health Sciences in Complex Health Systems
THS 8107	Program Theory and Health Innovations
THS 8109	Implementation Science and Innovation Leadership
THS 8121	Advanced Study Design for Translational Research
THS 8123	Qualitative Methods in Translational Health Sciences
THS 8125	Advanced Statistical Methods for Clinical and Translational Research
THS 8202	Knowledge Translation in Complex Health Systems
THS 8203	Bioethical Implications of Health Research
THS 8206	Translating Literature for Interdisciplinary Scholarship
THS 8221	Mixed Methods Research in Translational Health Sciences
THS 8961	Proposal Defense Preparation
THS 8996	Dissertation Seminar I
THS 8997	Dissertation Seminar II
THS 8998	Dissertation Seminar III
<b>Electives</b>	
6 credits in elective courses selected from the following:	
CRA 6205	Clinical Investigation
HSCI 6265	Grantsmanship in Translational Research
HSCI 6297	Independent Study for Health Professionals
OT 8215	Quality Improvement through Translational Practices
OT 8220	Measurement of Human Function and Learning
THS 8127	Systematic Reviews of Healthcare Innovations
THS 8214	Information Literacy for Health Professionals
THS 8227	Survey Methods for Translational Health Sciences