MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Program Director D. Anderson

Mission
The master of health administration degree program develops leaders who possess the values, knowledge, and skills to achieve optimal delivery of health care.

Overview
Since its founding in 1959, the master of health administration program (MHA) has offered education in health services administration to help meet the growing need for skilled executives to manage health-related organizations and programs. Because it recognizes and responds to the fast-paced, dynamic changes occurring in the industry today, the program is well-positioned to prepare not only health care managers, but the health care leaders of tomorrow. An MHA degree from the Department of Health Policy and Management incorporates business and medical informatics training, knowledge of health care systems, management theory, ethics, law, and policy, critical values in decision making, and much more.

The program’s special strengths include an emphasis on experiential learning and community service, distinguished faculty, research collaborations, and relationships with policymaking and health care organizations in Washington, DC. Active alumni (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/services/alumni/HSML-alumni) and student (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/projects/hsmi-student-association) associations foster mentoring, networking, and other professional development opportunities.

The curriculum focuses on leadership and strategic management trends, quality and performance improvement, leadership skills, community health planning and advocacy, organizational theory, finance, and health law. The program also offers residency and internship opportunities that allow students to apply their classroom knowledge in health care settings. Numerous seminar, conference, and networking opportunities are made possible through relationships with professional organizations and associations.

Goals
Graduates of the program are able to:

- Effectively manage organizational change and promote organizational and clinical excellence.
- Manage health services organizations under alternative financing mechanisms.
- Lead and manage human resources in diverse organizational environments.
- Manage information resources to assist in effective decision making and clinical management.
- Use statistical, quantitative, and economic analyses in decision making.
- Have the skills to improve both business and clinical outcomes of health services organizations.

Visit the program website (https://publichealth.gwu.edu/programs/health-administration-mha) for additional program information.

REQUIREMENTS
Prerequisites for admission into the MHA program include an undergraduate course in financial accounting and an introductory course in statistics earned with a minimum grade of B.

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 50 credits, including 31 credits in core courses, a 2-credit health policy selective course, 11 to 14 credits in elective courses, and 3 to 6 credits in field experience.

Students select one of five focus areas. The following two focus areas require 6 credits in a residency to fulfill the field experience requirements: acute and ambulatory care management and post-acute care management (including long-term care). The following three focus areas require 3 credits in an internship to fulfill the field experience requirement: information systems and financial management; operations management; and strategic management and policy.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSML 6202</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Services Delivery</td>
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<td>HSML 6203</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Management</td>
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<td>HSML 6204</td>
<td>Quality and Performance Improvement</td>
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<td>HSML 6206</td>
<td>QuanMethds&amp;Epid/HealthServices</td>
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<td>HSML 6207</td>
<td>Health Services Information Applications</td>
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<td>HSML 6208</td>
<td>Medical Informatics</td>
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<td>HSML 6209</td>
<td>Health Services Finance</td>
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<td>HSML 6210</td>
<td>Health Services Financial Applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSML 6211</td>
<td>Health Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSML 6212</td>
<td>Community Health Management and Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSML 6213</td>
<td>Health Services, Marketing, and Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSML 6215</td>
<td>Health Law for Managers</td>
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<td>HSML 6216</td>
<td>Human Resources Management and Organizational Behavior</td>
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<td>HSML 6218</td>
<td>Seminar: Health Services Management and Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6004</td>
<td>Environmental and Occupational Health in a Sustainable World</td>
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**Health policy selective**

One health policy course from the following:

- PUBH 6315 Introduction to Health Policy Analysis
- PUBH 6325 Federal Policymaking and Policy Advocacy
- PUBH 6356 State Health Policy
- PUBH 6366 Health Care Corporate Compliance
- PUBH 6368 Law, Medicine, and Ethics
- PUBH 6374 Pharmaceutical Policy
- PUBH 6378 HIV Policy in the US
- PUBH 6384 Health Care Quality and Health Policy
- PUBH 6399 Topics in Health Policy

**Program-specific electives**

Students whose focus area requires a residency select 11 credits from the following; students whose focus area requires an internship select 14 credits:

- HSML 6231 Management of Acute Care Hospitals
- HSML 6236 Aging and Disability: Needs and Services
- HSML 6237 Managing the Skilled Nursing Facility
- HSML 6238 Ambulatory Care Management
- HSML 6244 Supply Chain Management in Health Services
- HSML 6245 Disaster Management for Health Care Organizations
- HSML 6246 Service Line and Project Management
- HSML 6247 Consulting in Health Care
- HSML 6263 Advanced Health Financial Applications
- HSML 6270 Research in Health Services Administration (Independent Study)

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<tr>
<td>HSML 6285 &amp; HSML 6286</td>
<td>Readings in Health Services Management and Readings in Health Services Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSML 6299</td>
<td>Topics in HSML</td>
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**Field experience:**

Students select either the residency or internship focus area.

Students pursuing the residency focus area in acute and ambulatory care management or post-acute care management (including long term care) take the following two courses for a total of 6 credits:

- HSML 6274 Residency
- HSML 6275 Residency

Students pursuing an internship in one of the following areas take HSML 6271 Field Problem Studies for 3 credits.

- Information Systems and Financial Management
- Operations Management
- Strategic Management and Policy

**Graduation Requirements**

1. Graduate Credit Requirement: 50 graduate credits are required.
2. Grade Point Requirement: A 3.0 (B average) overall grade-point average is required.
3. Time Limit Requirement: The degree must be completed within five years.
4. Transfer Credit Policy: Up to 12 graduate credits that have not been applied to a previous graduate degree may be transferred to the MHA, upon approval. Credits must have been earned from a CAHME accredited institution in the last three years with a grade-point average of 3.0 or above.
5. Transfer to Degree Program Policy: Up to 18 credits may be transferred to the MHA from the Health Administration Generalist Certificate. Students wishing to transfer to a degree program may apply to do so via the online change of concentration petition after completion of three or more courses and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above. A grade of B or above is required for a course to be eligible for transfer. Students interested in applying to an MHA degree program should meet with the program director regarding program-specific admission requirements. Transfer credits must have been completed within the past three years.
6. Residency or Internship Requirement: Successful completion of a 6 credit residency or 3-credit internship.