In the doctor of health sciences, or DHSc, in leadership in clinical practice and education program students gain mastery of the design, implementation, and evaluation of healthcare programs, lead interprofessional teams, and evaluate evidence to advance healthcare. The program prepares those in clinical health positions from a range of backgrounds who seek to build competencies in advanced professional practice, whether that be in clinical or academic environments.

The curriculum is delivered primarily online, which means students can continue in their profession full-time, determining when and where learning works within their personal schedule. Two residencies are required over separate weekends, and the program culminates with a finalized manuscript ready for submission to a peer review journal. The program offers two concentrations in either clinical or educational practice.

By graduation students should be able to:

- Design strategies to improve clinical practice guidelines, clinician performance, and improved outcomes in a healthcare environment.
- Collaborate with interprofessional teams to address a common goal such as improved efficiency and effectiveness, or improved satisfaction among patients and healthcare providers.
- Analyze gaps between the outcomes of best practice and current practice in healthcare practice environments.
- Advance knowledge through action-oriented research and scholarship.

**ADMISSIONS**

To be accepted to this program, you must have:

- A completed graduate degree (minimum Master’s)
- A written personal statement- Please include a 250-500 word essay describing your reasons for undertaking study at The George Washington University, and your academic objectives, career goals, and related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, relevant to your program of interest. Include any substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application form.
- Completed Application
- Resume/CV

Application Fee: A non-refundable application fee of $80 is required. The application fee is waived for active-duty U.S. military, current GW students, degree-holding GW alumni, current McNair Program Scholars.

2 Letters of Recommendation

Official transcripts from every college and university attended. All non-U.S. transcripts (including those in English) must be evaluated by an accredited foreign credential agency. Please find the list of member organizations here: https://www.naces.org/members/

International Students: Applicants who are not U.S. citizens are also required to submit official test scores for Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or Pearson’s Test of English (PTE) Academics or the academic International English Language Test System (IELTS). The following are the minimum scores for admission consideration: TOEFL: 250 computer-based or 100 Internet-based GW’s school code for the TOEFL is 5246. PTE: overall score of 86 IELTS: overall band score of 7.0, with no individual band score below 6.0 International applicants may be considered for admission without submitting the above scores if: You are a citizen of a country where English is the official language, You hold a bachelor’s degree from a country where English is the official language and language of instruction, You hold a bachelor’s degree from an institution accredited by a U.S. regional accrediting agency.

Applicants must provide evidence of at least one year of clinical or health-related practice or health administration/leadership.

The admissions committee will give preference to students with competitive academic credentials and substantial prior clinical or academic experience related to the track the applicant wishes to pursue. Previous coursework in epidemiology or statistics is also recommended and will be considered in the selection process.

Applicants must have an entry-level professional or clinical degree (MD, PA, DPT, OTD, MSN, DNP) in biomedical science or a health related field.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

George Washington University
ATTN: Transcript Processing Center
1415 W 22nd St.
Suite 220
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Alternatively, official electronic transcripts can be sent to transcripts@hsprograms.gwu.edu.
Contact for questions:
hsphora@gwu.edu
202-994-0384 (phone)
202-994-0870 (fax)
Hours: 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 48 credits, including 24 credits in core courses, 9 credits in courses in one track, 6 credits in elective courses, and 9 credits in seminars.

Students complete one of two tracks based on desired career outcomes. One track focuses on enhancing skills related to advancing clinical practice in leadership positions and the other track emphasizes skills related to providing education for health professions students as well as leadership for health professions education in a higher-education setting.

### Code | Title | Credits
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**Required**

| Core courses | | |
|---|---|---
| HFR 8101 | Interprofessional Collaboration in Practice | |
| HFR 8102 | Health Professions Practicum I | |
| HFR 8103 | Health Professions Practicum II | |
| HFR 8107 | Program Theory and Health Innovations | |
| HFR 8116 | Academic and Clinical Leadership in the Health Professions | |
| HFR 8203 | Bioethical Implications of Health Research | |
| HFR 8270 | Research Methods in the Health Professions I | |
| HFR 8271 | Research Methods in the Health Professions II | |

Completion of all courses from one of the following tracks:

- **Clinical practice leadership track**—Three courses selected from the following:
  - CML 6203: Health Information Quality and Outcomes
  - HCO 6200: Introduction to Healthcare Quality
  - HFR 8313: Knowledge Translation in Health Care
  - HFR 8314: Health Care Research

or

- **Educational leadership track**—Three courses selected from the following:
  - HFR 8212: Teaching Strategies in the Health Professions
  - HFR 8213: Curriculum Development in the Health Professions
  - HFR 8214: Assessment in Health Profession Education
  - HFR 8215: Technology and Education in the Health Professions
  - HFR 8996: Seminar I
  - HFR 8997: Seminar II
  - HFR 8998: Seminar III

**Electives**

Research elective—At least one course selected from the following:

- CTS 6266: Grant Writing for the Individual Investigator
- HFR 8123: Qualitative Methods for the Health Professions
- HFR 8227: Survey Methods for Health Professionals
- HFR 8272: Mixed Methods in Translational Health Sciences
- THS 8125: Advanced Statistical Methods for Clinical and Translational Research
- THS 8127: Systematic Reviews of Healthcare Innovations

One additional track or research course selected with the advisor’s approval or one course selected from the following:

- COHM 6220: Finance for Healthcare Operations
- HSCI 6241: The Health Care Enterprise
- HSCI 6297: Independent Study for Health Professionals
- OT 8220: Measurement of Human Function and Learning