MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES IN THE FIELD OF HEALTHCARE QUALITY

The master of science in health sciences in the field of healthcare quality program is an interdisciplinary program designed for healthcare professionals who want to advance their careers and become leaders in healthcare quality and patient safety.

The competency-based curriculum is informed by the National Center for Healthcare Leadership and the National Association for Healthcare Quality. It includes 20 competencies, ranging from health informatics and quality and patient safety to leadership theories, critical thinking, and analysis. Toward the end of the program, a capstone project allows for high-level integration of the program’s competencies. Throughout the program, competency attainment is assessed at different points in time.

As one of the first two healthcare quality programs to receive national accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education, the healthcare quality program is designed to meet an emerging demand for quality and patient safety specialists who have the capacity and competence to grow and sustain a culture of continuous improvement at all levels and within every sector of the healthcare delivery system. Through a rigorous curriculum and an active-learning environment, the program helps prepare graduates for quality and patient safety leadership, management, and research positions within healthcare organizations or policy agencies. Upon completion of this program, students can expect to:

- Evaluate appropriate quality improvement patient safety, leadership, organizational change, and research theories/standards applicable to healthcare.
- Develop quality and patient safety improvement initiatives.
- Assess information technology systems to determine the level of support for quality improvement.
- Formulate organizational change plans to sustain a quality-focused culture.

Visit the program website (https://hcq.smhs.gwu.edu/) for additional information.

**ADMISSIONS**

Admissions Deadlines:
- Fall – June 15
- Spring - October 15
- Summer - March 1

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

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

George Washington University
ATTN: Transcript Processing Center
8300 Norman Center Dr
Suite 400
Bloomington, MN 55437

**Recommendations**

Two (2) recommendations required:
- Prior Transcripts required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Transcripts must be forwarded in their original sealed envelopes.
- Academic 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.
- Records: 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. Please see the list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services (https://www.naces.org/members/).

Statement of Purpose:
Please include a 250 - 500 word essay describing your reasons for undertaking study at the George Washington University, 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.

International Applicants:
Please review International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents and English language requirements.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the Health Sciences programs require the following minimum English language test scores for admission:
- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual band score below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or
- Academic PTE: 68
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: 36 credits in required courses.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Required</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate research courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSCI 6263</td>
<td>Biostatistics Translational Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSCI 6264</td>
<td>Epidemiology Translational Research</td>
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<td>Professional courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>COHM 6235</td>
<td>Leadership Development in Healthcare Systems</td>
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<td>COHM 6245</td>
<td>Strategic and Operational Decision Making for Healthcare Leaders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health care quality courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCQ 6200</td>
<td>Introduction to Healthcare Quality *</td>
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<td>HCQ 6201</td>
<td>Building a Quality Culture</td>
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<td>HCQ 6202</td>
<td>Health Care Quality Landscape</td>
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<td>HCQ 6203</td>
<td>Quality Improvement Science</td>
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<td>HCQ 6204</td>
<td>Health Care Quality Analysis</td>
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<td>HCQ 6205</td>
<td>Patient Safety Systems</td>
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<td>HCQ 6206</td>
<td>Health Information, Quality and Outcomes</td>
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<td>HCQ 6275</td>
<td>Leadership and Change</td>
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*Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) credential accepted as equivalent.