

HEALTH ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

Master of Health Administration (M.H.A.) Degree

DEGREE INFORMATION

Program Admission Deadlines:

Public Health has rolling admissions and no set deadline. A minimum of six (6) weeks is necessary after a completed application is received in order for the application to be fully processed.

Minimum Total Hours: 56 plus field experience

Program Level: Masters

CIP Code: 51.0701

Dept Code: DEA

Program (Major/College): MHA PH

CONTACT INFORMATION

College: Public Health

Contact Information: www.grad.usf.edu

Other Resources: www.usf4you.usf.edu

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The M.H.A. program prepares students for private and public sector leadership positions. In addition to the five core areas of public health, the curriculum helps students develop skills and knowledge in basic business disciplines with application to health services; a clinical and community perspective and professional skills. Students develop an understanding of organizational models and management principles applied to health settings; health care financial management and economics; quality and performance improvement; health policy and policy analysis; strategic planning and marketing; and health law and ethics.

The Master of Health Administration has the following competencies in which the graduate will be able to:

Management Science and Technology

- Explain and demonstrate an understanding of scientific operational definitions and their measurement, e.g., efficiency, effectiveness and quality.
- Integrate operational planning and management tools for performance and quality improvement.
- Demonstrate the use of information systems and application software in health services, e.g., electronic medical records, GIS, and use of software tools for management decision-making.
- Explain and demonstrate the application of quantitative analysis, e.g., descriptive and inferential statistics, regression, forecasting.
- Build analytical thinking acumen, e.g., the ability to understand any issue by delving into its relevant components and formulating solutions.
- Manage and assess operational performance.

Leadership, Planning, and Communication

- Shape operational and strategic plans and integrate with marketing initiatives.
- Lead improvement upon organizational design and culture, e.g., formal and informal decision-making structures, and champion workforce diversity.
- Clarify human resources management and staff development.
- Demonstrate public health values and reinforce ethical decision-making.
- Integrate and demonstrate effective written oral communication.

Public Policies and Community Engagement

- Assess community needs and values and the role of external relations, e.g., demographic/population contexts for development and management of health services.
- Comprehend and explain the legal and regulatory environment for health services.

- Explain and identify the optimal quantity of health care services to provide, e.g., satisfying supply and demand constraints and resource limitations.
- Analyze public policy context and choices.
- Analyze the linkages between cultural competencies and diversity regarding health disparities.

Concepts of Economic and Financial Management

- Comprehend and create budgets (e.g., variance analysis and standards development) and apply contribution margin analysis as used by clinical revenue-generating personnel and for product line management.
- Explain the principles and applications of cost accounting, e.g., breakeven analysis, the costing process, measurement, and control.
- Understand and construct financial statements, applying ratio analysis and pro forma statement generation.
- Execute financial mathematics, e.g., time value of money calculations, capital budgeting, return on investment, and project risk analyses.
- Perform differential reimbursement calculations by payers (e.g., Medicare/Medicaid, self-pay, managed care) and describe the major principles of health insurance.
- Understand and explain economic evaluation, e.g. cost benefit/cost effectiveness analysis.

Accreditation:

Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of College and Schools. The College is fully accredited by the Council on Education in Public Health.

Major Research Areas:

Health care financial management, Health economics, Quantitative methods in health services, Health insurance, Health law, Quality management, Performance improvement, Community health assessment, Organizational theory and behavior applied to health settings, Health information management, Health policy, and Strategic planning.

ADMISSION INFORMATION

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements listed below.

Program Admission Requirements

Meeting these criteria per se shall not be the only basis for admission.

- Public health course prerequisites:
 - Suggested/preferred undergraduate majors: Life sciences, social sciences, business, or health professions.
- Prerequisite undergraduate courses: Micro-economics.
- Work experience: Preferred, but not required.
- Minimum undergrad GPA: 3.0 upper division (some exceptions made if GRE exceeds minimum subscores).
- Verbal GRE Score: 450 minimum
- Quantitative GRE Score: 550 minimum
- In lieu of the GRE, applicants may submit a minimum GMAT score of 500 for the MHA.
- Applicants admitted to the MHA or an MPH concentration in the department of Health Policy and Management who have a score on the GRE Verbal or Analytical Writing test which is below the 40th percentile may be required to take REA 2105-Critical Reading and Writing, or an equivalent English composition course, during the first semester of enrollment.

DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Plan of Study Total minimum:

56 hrs plus field experience

CORE REQUIREMENTS**(15)**

PHC 6102	Principles of Health Policy and Management	3
PHC 6000	Epidemiology	3
PHC 6050	Biostatistics I	3
PHC 6357	Environmental and Occupational Health	3
PHC 6410	Social and Behavioral Sciences Applied to Health	3

Management and Policy**(19)**

PHC 6148	Strategic Planning and Healthcare Marketing	3
PHC 6147	Managing Quality in Health Care	2
PHC 6151	Health Policy and Politics	3
PHC 6114	Health Insurance and Managed Care	(2)
PHC 6180	Health Services Management	3
PHC 6181	Organizational Behavior in Health Services	3
PHC 6420	Health Care Law, Regulation and Ethics	3

Finance, Economics and Quantitative**(17)**

ACG 6025	Financial Accounting for Managers	2
QMB 6305	Managerial Decision Making	2
PHC 6161	Managerial Health Care Finance and Costing	4
PHC 6191	Quantitative Analysis in Health Care Management	3
PHC 6196	Information Systems in Health Care Management	3
PHC 6430	Health Economics I	3

Culminating Requirements**(6-7)**

PHC 6945 Supervised Field Experience 1-2

- Students with little or no professional experience: 2 hours minimum;
- Students with substantial work experience can negotiate a reduced number of hours with their advisor (e.g., 1 or 2 hours) if the student has meaningful experience (involving decision-making) in a health care or related organization

PHC 6977 Special Project 3

PHC 6183 Advanced Seminar in Health Care Management 2
(Case-based capstone course that includes the final comprehensive exam)

Total credits:

56 plus field experience

COURSESSee <http://www.ugs.usf.edu/sab/sabs.cfm>