The Department of Health Administration and Policy at George Mason University provides students the education, service, and research opportunities to contribute to improving the quality of care and delivery of health care services. Our innovative curriculum is recognized both nationally and internationally for preparing students to pursue careers as executives and managers in health care settings, as well as specialists in health informatics, health care risk management, and health policy and research.

We provide students the education, service, and research opportunities to contribute to improving the quality and delivery of health care services. Our students actively seek ways to enhance their learning and expand their knowledge and skills. Our experienced faculty are highly involved in novel and original research activities across all aspects of health care administration and policy, and they routinely collaborate with colleagues from other institutions in the United States and internationally and several public and private organizations.

Graduate Degrees

The department offers four graduate degrees: a PhD in Health Services Research, a Master of Health Administration (MHA) in Health Systems Management, a Master of Science in Health Informatics, and a Master of Science in Health and Medical Policy.

The **PhD in Health Services Research** program educates the next generation of health services researchers and scholars, preparing them for a variety of roles in health care organizations, higher education, health care consulting firms, government and nonprofit organizations, and private businesses that support or regulate public and private health service entities. Students choose from two concentrations: ***health systems and policy*** and ***knowledge discovery and health informatics.*** Graduates are able to work with extant and diverse data systems and have an in-depth understanding of health system functioning, state and federal health policy, and the factors affecting health care service delivery and public health.

The **MHA in Health Systems Management** prepares mid-career professionals to serve as leaders, managers, consultants, and analysts in various settings: public and private health care systems (including public health agencies), legislative arenas and policy-related professional and advocacy organizations, and health accreditation and regulatory organizations. The curriculum integrates concepts from a variety of disciplines such as business management, economics, philosophy, organizational behavior, information technology management, assisted living and senior housing administration, and health policy formulation.

The **Master of Science in Health Informatics**, offered in collaboration with the Volgenau School of Engineering, is a 34-credit hour program that prepares students to become health information systems specialists, managers, and consultants. Students learn the newest trends and emerging technologies likely to impact the field in the future. Graduates are able to effectively manage evolving health information systems and support the increased adoption and use of electronic health records. Graduates of the program may be employed in health information technology firms, health service organizations and their business partners, as well as public health entities.

The **Master of Science in Health and Medical Policy** program, offered jointly with the Schar School of Policy and Government, provides students with the knowledge to support policy formulation for health and medical professionals, health systems development, resource allocation, and advocacy for national and international public health. Students choose from two concentrations: ***health policy*** or ***global medical policy***. Graduates are prepared to become health and medical systems policy analysts, consultants, and public health advocates.

Graduate Certificates

The department also offers a number of graduate certificates: *Health Informatics and Data Analytics, Public Health Leadership and Management,* and *Quality Improvement and Outcomes Management in Healthcare Systems.* Please visit hap.gmu.edu for detailed information about these certificates.

Application Requirements

Applicants to each program must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. Admission is competitive, and a variety of criteria are evaluated in the admissions process, including the strength of the undergraduate record and any post-baccalaureate coursework, the GRE/GMAT (if required), career goals, letters of recommendation, professional and/or volunteer experience, evidence of the ability to write and conduct research at the graduate level, and any additional evidence of potential success in the program.

Applicants must apply to one of the concentrations available for their program of interest, and offers of admission are made only for the concentration area selected. Students may apply to switch concentration areas after enrollment; however, approval for such requests is not guaranteed. Applicants are strongly encouraged to select the concentration that is best suited to their career goals. Applications are considered for the **fall and spring semesters**. Information regarding application guidelines and requirements can be found at the Graduate Admissions website: https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/how-apply/graduate. For additional program details, visit CHHS Admissions at http://chhs.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate/index.cfm. Meeting the minimum application criteria does not guarantee admission. Meeting the minimum application criteria does not guarantee admission. Late applications will be considered on a space-available basis. The application for graduate study is available at admissions.gmu.edu.

Note: Applicants interested in the MHA, will apply using HAMPCAS, centralized application system at https://hampcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login. Please visit the HAP Department Website at http://chhs.gmu.edu/hap/health-administration/mha-health-systems-management.cfm for more information.

Health Informatics: Although the field or major is not a criterion for admission, the applicants are expected to have taken basic-level computer science/technology, mathematics, and statistics. An undergraduate grade point average of 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) or above is preferred. Furthermore, applicants with at least one year of professional work experience in a medical or health-related organization OR one year of work experience in information technology in any sector are preferred.

Health Systems Management: Applicants must have one to three years of recent experience in health or a related management or technology field to be considered.

Non-Degree Study

Students interested in enrolling in graduate-level courses prior to applying to their program of interest may have the option to do so through non-degree study. Please note that non-degree enrollment requires a formal application to the university, and no more than twelve credits of non-degree coursework may be applied to a degree. For more information, please visit the CHHS Non-Degree website at http://chhs.gmu.edu/admissions/non-degree.cfm

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