

HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, M.S.

Saint Louis University's online health administration, M.S. degree provides a flexible, full online pathway for working professionals, early-career clinicians, and career-switchers seeking to advance into health care management. The program is designed for students at all stages of their careers who want to gain the knowledge, skills, and credentials to lead effectively in a rapidly evolving health care industry.

Health care is a fast-growing industry needing highly competent managers with diverse backgrounds and experiences. SLU's online M.S. program in health administration is ideal for students who want the flexibility to complete their degree quickly and completely online while gaining practical health care experience.

Stackable certificates offer low-risk entry points into the program, allowing students to build key administrative skills and explore a pathway to the full M.S.H. A. degree. The curriculum combines competency-based education with applied learning experiences to prepare students for leadership and management roles across hospitals, clinics, physician practices, nursing and residential facilities, home health care organizations, pharmaceutical companies, managed care organizations, government agencies, and other health care-related entities.

Graduates leave the program equipped to lead in a quickly evolving health care landscape, with skills and credentials aligned to strong labor market demand for health services managers and administrative leaders.

Program Highlights

Key features of SLU's 39-credit hour health administration, M.S. program include:

- Fully online, asynchronous courses designed to provide maximum flexibility for working professionals.
- Structured opportunities for live, instructor-led engagement and peer interaction.
- Stackable certificates options in performance excellence, health data analytics, public health and other high-demand areas.
- Flexible start dates in spring, summer or fall semesters
- Accelerated time to completion, with the ability to earn the degree in approximately 16 months or in as few as 12 months.

Curriculum Overview

The Department of Health Management and Policy in the College for Public Health and Social Justice (<https://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/>) offers SLU's M.S. in health administration. In addition to the university-level accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission, the college is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health.

A total of 39 credit hours (six core courses and seven elective courses) are required to earn this online degree. Students may enroll in an additional 1- to 2-credit hour optional field experience or pursue a certificate program offered through the college, in addition to completing the required hours.

The program is delivered in a flexible, full online format. Courses are offered in an accelerated six-week structure. Students typically enroll in one course at a time; however, those who choose to take two courses concurrently may complete the degree in as few as 12 months. Students

who follow the standard progression can complete the program in approximately 16 months.

Courses are delivered in a semi structured, asynchronous format, allowing students to complete weekly modules at their own pace while meeting established deadlines. This design supports working professionals balancing career and personal responsibilities.

Students also have opportunities to interact with instructors and classmates through video conferencing and collaborative course activities.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

A formal internship or fellowship experience is not required for the health administration, M.S. degree. However, students may enroll in an optional field experience for 1 to 2 credit hours (depending on the hours spent in the field experience). For students without a background of working in the health system, the field experience will enable them to gain the practical expertise needed to launch their careers in health care management successfully.

Students who choose the field experience may do so in various settings and will usually complete this at the end of their M.S. coursework. Students will work with their faculty advisor to identify an appropriate field experience that aligns with their professional goals.

Careers

Graduates of SLU's M.S. in health administration program will be prepared for management positions in:

- Hospitals and health systems
- Physician's offices and clinics
- Community health centers and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs)
- Community-based organizations
- Managed care and other health insurance payer organizations
- Nursing and residential care facilities
- Home health care agencies
- Public health departments
- Government agencies

Admissions Requirements

- Completed application (SOPHAS or HAMPCAS)
- Undergraduate degree (applicants with 3.0 GPA or better see more success)
- Official transcript from a degree-granting institution
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Two letters of recommendation (can be waived for professionals with 5+ years of experience)
- The GRE is not required

Requirements for International students

Along with the general admission requirements above, the following must be provided by prospective international students:

- Demonstration of English Language Proficiency Some examples of demonstrated English language proficiency include minimum score requirements for the following standardized tests:

- Paper-based TOEFL: 550
- Internet-based TOEFL: 80
- IELTS: 6.5
- PTE: 54
- Duolingo: 110
- Academic records, in English translation, for post-secondary studies outside the United States. These must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations, and any honors or degrees received. WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

Tuition

Tuition	Total Program Cost
Master of Science Health Administration	\$42,000

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/>)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

The College for Public Health and Social Justice offers several ways to help finance graduate education. Opportunities include a limited number of merit-based scholarships.

For more information, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes for the M.S. in health administration degree are supported by the principles of competency-based education (CBE). Courses and the corresponding learning objectives are organized to address competencies necessary for success in health care management across the broad health sector.

These learning objectives, organized by five general domains, are outlined below:

1. **Leadership:** Lead people and teams to prioritize goals and policies that balance the mission, vision, and values of the organization with the needs and values of the communities it serves.
2. **Critical thinking and analysis:** Apply appropriate models and methods to analyze data, environments, and issues from a systems perspective.
3. **Management:** Demonstrate the ability to organize resources and manage accountability in health care and public health environments.
4. **Culture and community engagement:** Apply systems-thinking and community-engaged approaches in partnering with organizations and communities to improve population health outcomes.

5. **Communication:** Create, organize, and convey ideas and information tailored to the needs of the target audience.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
HMP 5010	Health Systems and Policy	3
HMP 5040	Fundamentals of Health Economics and Finance	3
HMP 5110	Health Operations Management	3
HMP 5190	Analytical Methods for Health Management	3
HMP 5300	Management of Health Care Organizations	3
HMP 5750	Strategy and Planning in Health Care	3
Elective Courses		21
Choose 21 credits from the courses below:		
HMP 5100	Quality Improvement in Health Care Management	
HMP 5380	Optimizing Human Resources for Health Care	
HMP 5150	Artificial Intelligence in Health Care	
HMP 5140	Leveraging Technology in Health Care Organizations	
HMP 5180	Visualizing and Communicating with Health Data	
HMP 5760	Financial Planning for Health Care Strategies	
HMP 5770	Solution-Oriented Business Plans in Health Care	
HMP 5780	Persuasive Communication and Advocacy for Health Care	
HMP 5410	Centering Health Care Leadership in Ethics and Law	
HMP 5420	Growing as a Leader in Health Care	
HMP 5850	Creating High Reliability Organizations	
HMP 5860	Project and Change Management	
HMP 5030	Introduction to Health Care Accounting	
HMP 5130	Health Information Systems	
HMP 5200	Health Economics	
HMP 5310	Medical Practice Management	
HMP 5340	Health Care Marketing	
HMP 5390	Ethical Leadership in Health Management and Policy	
HMP 5400	Legal Aspects of Health Services Management	
HMP 5500	Health Policy	
HMP 5700	Health Care Financial Management	
HMP 5710	Financial Aspects of Health Care	
HMP 5725	Health Insurance and Managed Care	
HMP 5810	Six Sigma Green Belt	
HMP 5820	Health Care Project Management	
Total Credits		39

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in consultation with each student's academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an "!" are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
HMP 5110	Health Operations Management	3
HMP 5300	Management of Health Care Organizations	3
HMP 5040	Fundamentals of Health Economics and Finance	3
Credits		9
Spring		
HMP 5190	Analytical Methods for Health Management	3
HMP 5010	Health Systems and Policy	3
HMP 5750	Strategy and Planning in Health Care	3
Credits		9
Summer		
HMP Electives		6
Credits		6
Year Two		
Fall		
HMP Electives		9
Credits		9
Spring		
HMP Electives		6
Credits		6
Total Credits		39

Contact Us

You may apply through SOPHAS or HAMPCAS:

For questions about applying to one of our graduate programs, contact the College for Public Health and Social Justice admissions via cphsjgrad@slu.edu.