HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Graduate Program Head: Alexander Siedschlag
Program Code: HADM
Campus(es): Harrisburg (M.H.A.)
Degrees Conferred: Master of Health Administration (M.H.A.)
The Graduate Faculty: View

Recognizing that the national health care system is in a period of reform and redesign, the program emphasis involves design/redesign in a 36-credit curriculum. Based on eight core courses defined as the foundation of administration in health care, the degree is designed for part-time professional students already engaged in health administration careers. The mission of the program is to further student knowledge and skills in a continuous learning cycle. Students are expected not only to know the existing health system, but are to develop a capability for design consistent with demands of access to care, management, and control of costs and quality of care delivery.

Part-time students may start the program at the beginning of any semester. They usually take one or two 3-credit courses each semester. Students may also take one or two courses during the summer session to maintain steady progress toward the degree. All Health Administration courses are available during the evening for the convenience of part-time students. A student may complete the M.H.A. on a part-time basis in about two to four years.

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).

Undergraduate degrees in any major are acceptable for admission. Applicants who are still completing their baccalaureate requirements at the time of the application may be provisionally admitted (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/provisional-admission) to the Graduate School conditional on the awarding of the baccalaureate degree.

Admission to the M.H.A program is based on clear suitability for the M.H.A. program as demonstrated by the application as a whole, to include:

- a completed online Graduate School application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply) and payment of the nonrefundable application fee;
- evidence of a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college as outlined in the link above;
- a statement of career and educational goals;
- a successful undergraduate record with a minimum grade-point average of 3.00 (with particular attention given to the last two years of undergraduate work);
- satisfactory scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) are required if the GPA is less than 3.00 (typically, applicants who have scores of 1,000 or higher on the GRE and are admitted to the program tend to be successful in the program);
- three years of work experience; and
- names of three references willing to provide recommendations.

The GPA requirement may be relaxed if the student has professional experience or other strong evidence suggesting likely success in the M.H.A. program. Some applicants may be admitted on a provisional basis (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/provisional-admission); the condition for removal of provisional status is obtaining a grade-point average of 3.00 in 15 credits of approved courses within two semesters.

The language of instruction at Penn State is English. English proficiency test scores (TOEFL/IELTS) may be required for international applicants. See GCAC-305 Admission Requirements for International Students (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/gcac-305-admission-requirements-international-students) for more information.

Degree Requirements

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

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Requirements (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).

The degree requires a total of 36 credits, with a minimum of 33 credits at the 500-level, including a 3-credit culminating experience (faculty-supervised paper); up to 3 credits of 400-level work may be included in the electives. An overall 3.00 (B) grade-point average must be earned in all course work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HADM 539</td>
<td>Health Systems Organization</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HADM 540</td>
<td>Health Administrative Policy Formulation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HADM 541</td>
<td>Health Economics and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HADM 542</td>
<td>Health Care Politics and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HADM 545</td>
<td>Health Financial Management</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>PADM 503</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PADM 506</td>
<td>Management Information Systems for Public and Health Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PADM 510</td>
<td>Organization Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
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Electives

Select 9 credits of the following:

- HADM 543 Long-Term Care Administration and Policy
- HADM 546 Health Planning for Public Administration
- HADM 548 Health Care Quality Assurance
- HADM 551 Health Care Law
- HADM 552 Health Delivery Systems
- HADM 597 Special Topics
- PADM 505 Human Resources in the Public and Nonprofit Sectors
- PADM 511 Organizational Change and Development
- PADM 512 Issues in Human Resources
- PADM 514 Public Organization and Managerial Consultation
- PADM 515 Labor Management Relations
- PADM 516 Strategic Planning

Culminating Experience
HADM 594 Research Topics (Faculty-supervised paper) 3

Total Credits 36

Student Aid

Graduate assistantships available to students in this program and other forms of student aid are described in the Tuition & Funding (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-funding) section of The Graduate School's website. Students on graduate assistantships must adhere to the course load limits (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gsad/gsad-900/gsad-901-graduate-assistants) set by The Graduate School.

Courses

Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

Health Administration (HADM) Course List (https://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/graduate/hadm)

Learning Outcomes

1. Communication and Relationship Management
2. Leadership
3. Professionalism
4. Knowledge of the Health Care Environment
5. Business Skills and Knowledge

Contact

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Program Website View (https://harrisburg.psu.edu/public-affairs/health-administration/master-health-administration)