

# HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, M.S.

Saint Louis University's online health administration, M.S. degree provides a convenient pathway to a graduate degree for working professionals looking to advance their current careers in health care management. This unique degree allows people to transition into the health care field from other industries at all stages of their careers.

Health care is a rapidly growing industry needing highly competent managers with diverse backgrounds and experiences. SLU's M.S. program in health administration is ideal for students who want the flexibility to complete their degree quickly and completely online but may also benefit from gaining additional health care experience or professional development support. Students who complete this degree will be prepared to assume management roles in hospitals, clinics, physicians' offices, nursing and residential facilities, home health care delivery organizations, pharmaceutical companies, managed care organizations, government agencies and related entities.

## Program Highlights

Key features of SLU's 41-credit hour health administration, M.S. program include:

- All courses are offered completely online in a flexible, asynchronous format, which allows students to study at their own pace and work around busy schedules
- Instructor-designed opportunities for real-time interactions in each course
- Ability to pursue certificate programs in performance excellence, health data analytics, public health and other high-demand areas
- Flexible start dates in spring, summer or fall semesters
- Short time to degree completion: Students can earn the health administration, M.S. degree in approximately 16 months.

## Curriculum Overview

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

A total of 41 credit hours (12 core and two elective courses) are required to earn this online degree. Students may choose to enroll in an additional 1- to 2-credit hour optional field experience or to pursue a certificate program offered through the college, in addition to completing the required hours. The program provides a flexible format that enables students to complete degree requirements entirely online, in a semi-structured, asynchronous format.

Within this structure, students enroll in one course at a time, offered in an accelerated format over four weeks, with a one-week transition between courses. Students work through the weekly modules at their own pace, which is a convenient format for those who are busy with family and work obligations. In addition to the required coursework, students will also have the option to attend professional development sessions, interact with their instructors and classmates via video conference software,

and participate in a field experience with health care or public health organizations near where they live or work.

## 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 previous experience working in the health system, the internship or fellowship will enable them to gain the practical field experience 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 the HMP professional development coordinator and their faculty advisor to identify an appropriate location for the field experience.

## 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

## Admission Requirements

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree, preferably with a 3.00 grade point average. The GRE is not required. Applications are reviewed on a holistic and rolling basis.

## Application Requirements

- Application form and fee (apply at HAMPCAS (<https://hampcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>))
- Transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Resume/curriculum vitae
- Interview (on-campus interviews are preferred, but phone or Skype options are available for situations where travel to SLU is not feasible)
- Professional goal statement

## Requirements for International Students

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students. International students must also meet the following additional requirements:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>)

- Financial documents are required to complete an application for admission and be reviewed for admission and merit scholarships.
- Proof of financial support that must include:
  - A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the student's time at Saint Louis University
  - A letter from the sponsor's bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of the student's study at the University
- Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include:
  - 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
  - Any honors or degrees received.

WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

## Application Deadline

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until classes are full.

## Review Process

All applications are considered on an individual basis with a balanced approach. Candidates may be invited to an on-site interview.

## Tuition

| Tuition          | Cost Per Credit |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Graduate Tuition | \$1,370         |

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>)

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/>)

## 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 and graduate research assistantships.

Awards are made to applicants with the highest combinations of GPAs and test scores who complete their applications by the priority deadlines.

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:

- 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.
- Critical thinking and analysis:** Apply appropriate models and methods to analyze data, environments, and issues from a systems perspective.
- Management:** Demonstrate the ability to organize resources and manage accountability in health care and public health environments.
- Culture and community engagement:** Apply systems-thinking and community-engaged approaches in partnering with organizations and communities to improve population health outcomes.
- Communication:** Create, organize, and convey ideas and information tailored to the needs of the target audience.

## Requirements

| Code   | Title  | Credits   |
|--|--|-----------|
| <b>Required Courses</b>                          |  |           |
| HMP 5000   | Health Care Organization                           | 3         |
| HMP 5040   | Fundamentals of 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 5800   | Strategic Management in Health Care Organizations  | 3         |
| PUBH 5010  | Mission and Practice of Global Public Health       | 2         |
| <b>Elective Courses</b>                          |  | <b>21</b> |
| <i>Choose 21 credits from the courses below:</i> |  |           |
| HMP 5030   | Introduction to Health Care Accounting             |           |
| HMP 5100   | Quality Improvement in Health Care Management      |           |
| 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                     |           |
| <b>Total Credits</b>                             |  | <b>41</b> |

## Continuation Standards

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

## Roadmap

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

| Course               | Title   | Credits   |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Year One</b>      |   |           |
| <b>Fall</b>          |   |           |
| HMP 5000             | Health Care Organization                          | 3         |
| HMP 5040             | Fundamentals of Economics and Finance             | 3         |
| Electives            |   | 3         |
| <b>Credits</b>       |   | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>Spring</b>        |   |           |
| HMP 5190             | Analytical Methods for Health Management          | 3         |
| HMP 5800             | Strategic Management in Health Care Organizations | 3         |
| Electives            |   | 6         |
| <b>Credits</b>       |   | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Year Two</b>      |   |           |
| <b>Fall</b>          |   |           |
| PUBH 5010            | Mission and Practice of Global Public Health      | 2         |
| HMP 5110             | Health Operations Management                      | 3         |
| Electives            |   | 6         |
| <b>Credits</b>       |   | <b>11</b> |
| <b>Spring</b>        |   |           |
| HMP 5300             | Management of Health Care Organizations           | 3         |
| Electives            |   | 6         |
| <b>Credits</b>       |   | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>Total Credits</b> |   | <b>41</b> |

## Contact Us

Apply Via SOPHAS (<https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/deeplink/programSearch/organization/6425937835738032128>)

Apply Via HAMPCAS (<https://hampcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/deeplink/programSearch/organization/3346535108555149312>)

For additional admission questions, please contact:

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