

MASTER OF HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION

Web Site: <https://twu.edu/health-care-administration/graduate-degrees/master-of-healthcare-administration/>

The Master of Healthcare Administration (M.H.A.) degree prepares students to assume leadership and management positions in the healthcare industry. The M.H.A. is accredited by CAHME, the Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education, and emphasizes the application of ethical healthcare leadership within the broader societal and economic environments. Our program delivers business skills in leadership, operations analysis, human resources management, accounting, and finance focused on the complex healthcare industry, from hospital administration to managing clinics and other healthcare entities. Students have an opportunity to work on comprehensive client-based projects, and also may apply to participate in an internship. While an internship or fieldwork is not required, it is strongly recommended for all individuals who lack healthcare experience or whose experience is primarily technical or clinical. Students make the decision whether or not to include an internship as one of the M.H.A. electives in conjunction with their advisor. In addition to the basic M.H.A. degree, students may also choose an optional emphasis area. Currently, this degree track offers two emphases: Business Analytics and Global Health.

Marketable Skills

Defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30 Strategic Plan (<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/miscellaneous/the60x30-strategic-plan/>) as, "Those skills valued by employers that can be applied in a variety of work settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills areas. These skills can be either primary or complementary to a major and are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities."

- Appropriately use information, data, and sound judgment to make informed management decisions. Students will be able to apply critical thinking and analysis to solve healthcare problems. They will apply effective information gathering and analytical thinking to healthcare financial management, performance measurement, and process management issues.
- Successfully pursue organizational goals that involve getting things done through, and in collaboration with others. Students gain these skills with a focus on governance, change leadership, human resource management, initiative, IT management, organizational awareness, project management, and strategic orientation.
- Act with integrity, upholding high professional and ethical standards. Emphasizing ethical decision-making, professionalism, life-long learning, and self-confidence, graduates will approach their profession with an achievement orientation.

Admissions

All students must meet the University requirements as outlined in the Admission to the TWU Graduate School (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/graduate-school/admission-graduate-school/>) section of the catalog.

This academic program may have additional admission criteria that must also be completed as outlined on the program's website.

Degree Requirements

Total Semester Credit Hours Required

45-54 semester credit hours (SCH).

Code	Title	SCHs
Leveling/Foundation Courses (may be waived with advisor approval)		
HCA 5103	Foundations of Health Services	0-9
HCA 5463	Research Methods for Managerial Decision Making	
HCA 5513	Financial Accounting in Health Care Administration	
Health Systems Organization Sequence		6
HCA 5393	Health Law and Ethics	
HCA 5633	Health Policy Analysis	
Management and Leadership Sequence		12
HCA 5223	Strategic Planning in Healthcare	
HCA 5343	Human Resources Management in Health Care Administration	
HCA 5883	Professional Portfolio and Healthcare Career Competencies	
HCA 5933	Capstone in Health Care Administration	12
Quantitative Methods Sequence		
HCA 5443	Operations Analysis in Healthcare Administration	
HCA 5473	Health Information Management	
HCA 5483	Population Health Management	
HCA 5493	Performance Measurement and Quality in Health Care Administration	
Finance, Accounting and Economics Sequence		9
HCA 5533	Management Accounting for Health Care Organizations	
HCA 5543	Health Care Finance	
HCA 5623	Economics of Health Care	
Electives		6
Select six semester credit hours of electives in consultation with advisor. Leveling/Foundation courses can not be used as an elective.		
Total SCHs		45-54

Additional Grading Requirements

In addition to the general University grading requirements, the HCA Program limits the number of courses in which a grade of C is made in HCA program-specific courses to two. If a grade of C is made in a third HCA program-specific course, then regardless of the cumulative grade point average, the student will be dropped from the HCA Program. Since this is an HCA grading requirement and not a University requirement, the student may choose to apply to another TWU program.

The two C Rule applies even if the student retakes a course in which the initial grade was a C.

Foundation courses

Foundation courses are the first level of preparation for specialized study in Health Care Administration. Applicants may request a waiver of any foundation course by presenting evidence of having completed at least two undergraduate or one graduate course in the content area with a grade of B or higher. These courses must be completed prior to enrolling in required courses.

Electives

Students, in consultation with a faculty advisor, will select at least six semester credit hours of approved elective courses in order to obtain additional breadth or depth in a particular field of Health Care Administration study. A study abroad elective is also available. Electives from other TWU departments or other Universities may be approved with permission from the faculty advisor if they meet the criteria as related to the study of health care administration and the student's career goals. However, transfer credits from other Universities or Departments are subject to limits established by the graduate school.

Internship/Fieldwork Opportunities

Internships and field experiences are available with health care organizations. They are designed to provide students with the opportunity to integrate and apply knowledge and skills from their course experiences. While an internship or fieldwork is not required, it is strongly recommended for all individuals who lack health care experience or whose experience is primarily technical or clinical. The decision regarding whether the internship or fieldwork should be included as one of the elective courses is made jointly by the faculty advisor and student at the completion of 12 semester credit hours of study. In addition, many courses include fieldwork projects, tours, and assessments of local health care organizations. A maximum of three semester credit hours may be earned in internship or fieldwork and applied toward the degree. In order to receive academic credit for an internship or fieldwork the student must contact his/her faculty advisor and complete the necessary documentation with the HCA internship/fieldwork coordinator prior to applying or accepting an internship or fieldwork assignment.

Portfolio

Each student is required to develop and maintain a professional portfolio documenting the attainment of goals and skills acquired in the course of their graduate study. This portfolio and student goals are developed jointly by the student and faculty advisor. The portfolio is to be reviewed periodically with the advisor. Students must enroll in HCA 5883 during their final semester to complete their portfolios.

Some courses in the program may be delivered in a non-traditional distance learning format. As a result, student involvement on campus will vary depending on the method of delivery.