

# HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION (MS)

Department website (<https://www.uwp.edu/learn/programs/masterofsciencehealthcareadministration.cfm>)

This program is a collaborative online Master of Science in Healthcare Administration degree program offered jointly by UW-Parkside, UW-Stout, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Lacrosse, UW-Platteville with administrative and financial support from UW-Extension. This online M.S. in Healthcare Administration programs focuses primarily on adult and nontraditional students who hold an undergraduate degree and have the desire to continue their education to achieve a graduate degree.

The program is fully online and designed to provide a foundation for entry and advancement for professionals who are seeking management positions in the healthcare industry. The program's multidisciplinary curriculum balances theory with real-world applications relevant to the current field and draws primarily from the following academic disciplines: healthcare, public health, information technology, business and communications. The M.S. in Healthcare Administration represents a fully online degree geared toward working professionals seeking to obtain advanced-level competencies in the areas of healthcare leadership, management, marketing, communications, law and policy, and quality and performance improvement.

## Goals of the Program

The University of Wisconsin Master of Science in Healthcare Administration program prepares patient-care professionals, hospital administration, or current management professionals to help accomplish the triple aim of improving access to care, impacting the quality of care, and reducing the overall cost of care in a variety of settings.

## Program Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate professional communication and interpersonal skills appropriate for a healthcare setting.
2. Demonstrate strategic leadership and decision-making skills necessary in healthcare.
3. Evaluate operational performance across diverse healthcare organizations.
4. Develop strategies to recruit, train, and retain an effective healthcare workforce.
5. Evaluate financial strategies and techniques to meet healthcare organizational needs and goals.

### Requirements for the Master of Science in Healthcare Administration

To graduate with a master of science in healthcare administration students must satisfy all degree requirements for their home institutions.

Code	Title	Credits
HCA 700	U.S. Healthcare Systems	3
HCA 705	Population Health and Epidemiology	3
HCA 710	Health Communication	3
HCA 715	Healthcare Technology, Data Analytics, and Information Governance	3
HCA 720	Healthcare Financial Management	3
HCA 730	Human Capital Management in Healthcare	3

HCA 740	Healthcare in Operations and Project Management	3
HCA 750	Healthcare Quality and Performance Management	3
HCA 760	Health Law and Policy	3
HCA 770	Organization Development and Strategic Leadership in Healthcare	3
HCA 780	Communicating Current and Emerging Topics in Healthcare	3
HCA 789	Capstone Preparation	1
HCA 790	Capstone	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>37</b>

## University Requirements for Master's Degree Programs

To receive a master's degree from UW-Parkside, students must meet the following minimum requirements (note that individual programs may impose more stringent requirements):

1. Complete at least 30 graduate credits, of which no more than 12 may be transferred from another institution.
2. Have an overall GPA of at least 3.00 for all graduate work taken at UW-Parkside that is applicable to the degree program.
3. Satisfy all requirements of the graduate degree program.

Students may take no more than seven years to complete a degree, beginning with the semester in which they complete their first course as a UW-Parkside degree-seeking graduate student, unless they apply for and receive an extension through the appropriate graduate program. Some programs may impose a shorter time limit. To graduate, students must file a request for graduation. The request form, signed by the student's advisor and filed in the appropriate graduate program office, initiates the final review of the candidate's records. Students also need to apply to graduate with the Office of the Registrar.

Admission to the Master of Science in Healthcare Administration requires:

- Bachelor's degree in any discipline from an accredited University/College,
- Prerequisite coursework in Elementary Statistics, Medical Terminology, and Oral Communication or Speech,
- Employment résumé,
- Two letters of recommendation,
- A personal statement of not more than 1000 words.

Admission exams, such as the GRE or the GMAT, are not required.

To be eligible for admission in full standing for the MS in HCA a student must have an overall undergraduate grade point average of 3.00. Students who do not qualify for admission in full standing may be admitted on a trial enrollment justified by the admitting department and approved by the Academic Director of the MS in HCA. Students are allowed seven years from the date of admission into the program to complete degree requirements; extensions may be granted for extenuating circumstances.

Program entrance requirements and degree completion requirements are consistent with those of the other collaborative degree-granting institutions offering this program. The overall grade point average requirement needed to graduate with the MS in HCA is a 3.0. Students progressing towards the completion of their programs must earn a

minimum grade of a 2.0 in any class in order for them to count towards their degrees. Students are responsible for achieving the overall 3.0 grade point average necessary to graduate with the MS in HCA

Applicants should follow the instructions found in the Online Admission Policies and Procedures section of this catalog.

## Courses in Healthcare Administration

### HCA 700 | U.S. Healthcare Systems | 3 cr

Introduces the many public and private elements of the U.S. healthcare system. Explores the historical, social and cultural, financial and economic, and political as well as regulatory factors, and how they interact to influence the delivery of care and services that affect individual and population health outcomes.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 701 | Senior Care and Services Systems | 3 cr

Explores the foundation of academic and professional disciplines in senior services and examines regulations in senior care and service organizations. Provides exposure to knowledge and tools for the development and implementation of programs and practices that advance a high quality and safe living or service environment for frail seniors and other populations in need of care or service.

**Prerequisites:** Admission into HCA masters or certificate program.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring.

### HCA 702 | Leadership Practices across the Senior Care Continuum | 3 cr

This course provides an up-to-date review and exploration of a variety of topics important to the success of an administrative leader in senior care and services. Selected topics focus the knowledge and application of leadership and management skills necessary in today's health care and aging services environment.

**Prerequisites:** Admission into HCA masters or certificate program.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring.

### HCA 705 | Population Health and Epidemiology | 3 cr

Identifies and addresses epidemiology, biostatistics, including study design within a healthcare framework. Applies these elements to individuals and populations while addressing critical public health perspectives across a broad spectrum from individuals to larger systems to improve the health of a community.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 710 | Health Communication | 3 cr

Examines the analysis and use of communication strategies to inform and influence individual and community decisions that impact health. Explores topics such as the social construction of health, social support, literacy, survivorship, social and community issues, risk management, marketing and public relations, health messaging and promotional campaigns, theory application, and identity across contexts.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 715 | Healthcare Technology, Data Analytics, and Information Governance | 3 cr

Covers various topics including electronic health records; health IT privacy and security; health information exchanges; IT for revenue cycle management; utilizing technology to analyze healthcare data including MS-DRG data, hospital readmission data, medicare spending, and healthcare quality data; Technologies for diagnosis and treatment; big data applications in healthcare.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 720 | Healthcare Financial Management | 3 cr

Studies the principles of healthcare finance. Includes financial and management accounting, the financial reporting structure of healthcare organizations, healthcare financial statement analysis, costing and budgetary methods, sources of healthcare revenue and expenses, processes for healthcare billing, and capital investment decisions.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 730 | Human Capital Management in Healthcare | 3 cr

Examines complexities in human resource management strategies in healthcare organizations. Provides knowledge and tools to develop high potential workforces using a people-centered approach to human capital management, organizational culture/climate, communication, and talent development to ensure competitive advantage in creating sustainable high-performance healthcare organizations in rural and urban settings.

**Prerequisites:** HCA 700, HCA 720.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 740 | Healthcare in Operations and Project Management | 3 cr

Examines operations management techniques unique to healthcare processes. Addresses solutions for operational issues in healthcare facilities and supply chain. Highlights essential components of healthcare project management. Emphasizes operational and management tools and techniques for healthcare project and process execution.

**Prerequisites:** HCA 715, HCA 720.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 750 | Healthcare Quality and Performance Management | 3 cr

Provides an overview of quality models and risk management in healthcare. Explores theories concepts, skills, tools and environmental factors. Focuses on measurement and analysis techniques, as well as real-world applications of quality approaches to implement and sustain performance improvements.

**Prerequisites:** HCA 715.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

### HCA 760 | Health Law and Policy | 3 cr

Studies the political, legal, regulatory, and ethical environments within which healthcare administrators operate. Explores the legal frameworks related to the healthcare system, with an ethical focus. Considers the impact of political structure on healthcare policy, with an emphasis on the role played by healthcare administrators in policy advocacy.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

**HCA 770 | Organization Development and Strategic Leadership in Healthcare | 3 cr**

Explores organization development and leadership theories, including self-discovery of leadership potential and change leadership strategies applied within healthcare organizations. As a blend of theory and application, course is designed for individuals to work toward identifying and facilitating broad-scale organizational change while employing strategic leadership practices in healthcare.

**Prerequisites:** HCA 730, HCA 740 and HCA 750.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

**HCA 780 | Communicating Current and Emerging Topics in Healthcare | 3 cr**

Investigates current and emerging trends influencing healthcare such as healthcare policies and politics, ethics, emerging technologies, healthcare population/disease demographics and reimbursement models. Explores differences between rural, urban and global settings.

**Prerequisites:** HCA 715.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

**HCA 789 | Capstone Preparation | 1 cr**

Prepares the student for applied capstone course, including assisting with site identification, coordination and approval of placement and of a substantive work project while working with site mentor/supervisor.

**Prerequisites:** HCA 700, HCA 710, HCA 720, HCA 730, HCA 740, HCA 750, and HCA 770.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.

**HCA 790 | Capstone | 3 cr**

Applies aspects of theory and dynamics of interprofessionalism in healthcare setting(s). Capstone work (minimum 150 hours) will be completed in partnership with site mentor/supervisors. A substantive work project-deliverable demonstrating summative application of previous coursework will be expected.

**Prerequisites:** HCA 700, HCA 710, HCA 720, HCA 730, HCA 740, HCA 750, HCA 770 and HCA 789.

**Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer.