

Master of Health Administration, MHA

Requirements

The Master of Health Administration (MHA) requires 45–60 s.h. of graduate credit: 45 s.h. for the executive subprogram and 60 s.h. earned in two academic years of full-time study for the general program. Transfer credit and course waivers may be accepted, but all general program students are expected to complete a minimum of 54 s.h. at the University of Iowa during their course of study. Students must maintain a Graduate College program grade-point average of at least 3.00 to earn the degree.

The program prepares students for a wide variety of positions in health care management. It is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of issues encountered by health care delivery organizations and strong business skills. Graduates are well prepared to advance to senior executive roles in a variety of health care organizations.

Students work with their advisors to create a plan of study that incorporates required and elective coursework that supports their career goals in areas such as operations management, managed care, or financial management. Required courses in management, economics, law, managerial finance, and financial accounting focus on health care applications. Students may also take coursework in other University of Iowa departments and programs, such as business, planning and public affairs, and aging and longevity studies.

During the first year, students are introduced to the social, political, economic, and financial environments of health care organizations. The concepts, tools, and techniques necessary for effective management are also presented. During the second year, courses focus on in-depth health care applications of management concepts that integrate prior coursework and develop skills in areas relating to students' special interests and career objectives.

The Master of Health Administration requires the following coursework.

General Program

Students complete a combination of core courses and electives for a total of 60 s.h.

Core Courses

Students complete 54 s.h. in the following core courses, with the exception of students in the law subprogram who do not complete HMP:5810 MHA Internship; the law subprogram core courses total 51 s.h.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
HMP:5000	Professional Development Seminar (taken four times for 1 s.h. each)	4
HMP:5005	Introduction to Healthcare Organization and Policy	3
HMP:5200	Healthcare Management	3
HMP:5230	Population Health	3

HMP:5310	Healthcare Quality and Operations Management	3
HMP:5315	Health Information Systems	3
HMP:5320	Analytics for Healthcare Management	3
HMP:5402	Corporate Financial Reporting	3
HMP:5410	Health Economics I	3
HMP:5610	Health Policy	3
HMP:5810	MHA Internship	1
HMP:6055	Topics in Health Administration (when topic is health care payment methods)	3
HMP:6110	Healthcare Strategy and Business Development	3
HMP:6150	MHA Integrative Capstone	3
HMP:6310	Human Resources and Performance Improvement in Healthcare	3
HMP:6355	Healthcare Leadership and Ethics	3
HMP:6410	Healthcare Financial Management	3
HMP:6610	Legal Aspects of Healthcare	2
CPH:6100	Essentials of Public Health	2

Electives

Students select elective courses to reach 60 s.h. total earned for the degree. Students complete at least 6 s.h. of elective coursework from the following list, or they may count a maximum of 6 s.h. of elective credit earned outside the Department of Health Management and Policy toward the MHA degree with their faculty advisor's approval.

Students in the business or law subprogram instead complete 6 s.h. or 9 s.h., respectively, from electives in their complementary fields; see "Combined Programs" in this section of the catalog for elective course options.

Course #	Title	Hours
HMP:5350	Hospital Organization and Management	2-3
HMP:5450	Health Insurance and Managed Care	3
HMP:5650	Health Policy Analysis	3
HMP:5750	Medicare and Medicaid Policy	3
HMP:6350	Medical Practice Administration	3
HMP:6360	Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I	3
HMP:6365	Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness II	3
HMP:6710	Federalism and Health Policy	3
HMP:6850	Independent Study and Research	arr.
HMP:6855	Administrative Practicum	2-3
HMP:7550	Cost Effectiveness and Decision Analysis	3

Summer Internships, Fellowships, Residencies

The department facilitates the placement of MHA students in required summer internships between the first and second years of study. Internships offer opportunities for practical experience interacting with executives in a health care setting. Internships are full-time positions that usually last 10-12 weeks. Students typically receive a salary or stipend and, in some cases, assistance with living arrangements.

Most MHA students complement their academic training with a postgraduate fellowship or residency. Such experiences provide opportunities to observe, develop, and demonstrate management skills and to develop connections with colleagues. The department takes an active role in helping students identify and secure fellowship and residency positions.

Executive MHA Subprogram

The executive Master of Health Administration subprogram (EMHA) requires 45 s.h. of graduate credit and is typically completed in two years. The plan of study is designed for working professionals who wish to advance their knowledge and skills in order to become effective health care administrators. The EMHA objectives are to:

- provide working professionals with advanced knowledge and skills in health care management;
- position experienced professionals to become effective health care administrators; and
- meet the need for leadership in transforming health care financing and delivery in dynamic environments.

The EMHA's curricular emphases are administrative skills specific to health care, population health administration, and interprofessional health care administration.

Courses are taught online synchronously by healthcare-experienced academic and practitioner faculty members. The program can typically be completed in two years, including the two summer sessions.

The Master of Health Administration (executive MHA subprogram) requires the following coursework.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
HMP:5001	Interprofessional Health Care Administration I	3
HMP:5002	Interprofessional Health Care Administration II	3
HMP:5200	Healthcare Management	3
HMP:5230	Population Health	1
HMP:5310	Healthcare Quality and Operations Management	3
HMP:5315	Health Information Systems	2
HMP:5320	Analytics for Healthcare Management	3
HMP:5342	Lean Six Sigma in Health Care	3
HMP:5402	Corporate Financial Reporting	3
HMP:5410	Health Economics I	3
HMP:5610	Health Policy	3
HMP:6110	Healthcare Strategy and Business Development	3

HMP:6150	MHA Integrative Capstone	2
HMP:6355	Healthcare Leadership and Ethics	3
HMP:6410	Healthcare Financial Management	3
HMP:6610	Legal Aspects of Healthcare	2
CPH:6100	Essentials of Public Health	2
Total Hours		45

For more information, visit Executive MHA Track on the College of Public Health website.