Master of Health Administration

Approx. program length: 17 months
Credits: 36
Cost per credit: $698
Format: Online

Pursue leadership opportunities with an MHA

Decisions about quality, technology, data, sustainability and patient safety are made in healthcare leadership positions. A Master of Health Administration can help prepare you to lead in these complex situations. Our curriculum aligns with the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). And, our course schedule allows you to enhance your healthcare career while keeping up with your job and family. Your degree can be completed in as little as 17 months, just one 6-week course at a time.

In this MHA program, you’ll learn to:

- Develop the leadership skills needed to work in healthcare administration
- Use data to address the “Triple Aim” of healthcare (cost/quality of care, population health, patient-centrism)
- Navigate the world of healthcare mergers and acquisitions
- Respond with agility to emerging trends across the sector

Your MHA can stand alone, or you can specialize your degree with a concentration in Informatics. Or, pursue a dual Master of Health Administration/Master of Business Administration (MHA/MBA) degree to respond to healthcare demands from a business perspective.

Mission: The mission of the Master of Health Administration program is to prepare early-to-mid careerists, who desire to pursue a degree while employed, with the competencies necessary to grow professionally, facilitate cross-system transformation, and engage with their communities.

Vision: Creating a new type of health sector leader who is authentic, transparent, and creative – who thinks critically and with agility, comfortable at the intersection of industry expertise and academic scholarship.

What sets us apart?

When you choose our Master of Health Administration program, you can:

Trust our commitment to quality
Our MHA program was recently granted candidacy status by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME).

Become a well-rounded leader
Our unique Novel Initiative uses literary works to help students cultivate empathy for patients and colleagues whose experiences might be different than their own.

Broaden your expertise
Earn a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in addition to your MHA and learn the business skills needed to work in executive healthcare management.
Projected job growth:

20%
According to Bureau of Labor Statistics

Job opportunities

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job growth for medical and health services managers is projected to be 20 percent between 2016 and 2026. A Master of Health Administration can help prepare you to be a:

• Health manager
• Mental health program manager
• Office manager
• Practice administrator
• Program manager

Networking opportunities

Access powerful networking tools through our PhoenixLink™ career services platform. Take advantage of personal career coaching. Search and apply for jobs, or make your resumé visible to employers. And connect with employers and alumni through career fairs and mixers. It’s all about connections. And we help you make them.

HIMSS free membership for MHA students

Eligible healthcare and health IT students can take advantage of a complimentary individual membership to the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS). Network with other professionals, take advantage of career services, discover professional opportunities and more.

Learning outcomes

Along with the knowledge and skills related to the University Learning Goals, students who graduate from the College of Health Professions should gain program-specific knowledge, skills and abilities. Each college or school creates a set of Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs) to describe the knowledge, skills or attitudes students will possess upon completion of the program of study. By the time you complete your Master of Health Administration degree, you should be able to perform these learning outcomes.

Program purpose statement

The purpose of the Master of Health Administration is to prepare leaders and aspiring leaders in the health sector to drive the future of healthcare by providing them with the competencies necessary to facilitate cross-system transformation and improve health outcomes for patients, populations and providers. Areas of inquiry include industry and organizational dynamics, visioning the future, forming strategic relationships, leading with authenticity, creating a sustainable personal legacy, and transformation and execution in diverse health system contexts.

The goal of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality. Accreditation is your assurance the University meets quality standards.

Institutional accreditation

Regional accreditation is an institution-level accreditation status granted by one of six U.S. regional accrediting bodies. Accreditation by more than one regional accrediting body is not permitted by the U.S. Department of Education.

University of Phoenix is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), hlcommission.org. Since 1978, University of Phoenix has been continually accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and its predecessor.
Programmatic accreditation candidacy

Our MHA program was recently granted candidacy status by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME). Candidate status is an indication that a program in healthcare management has voluntarily committed to participate in a plan of self-improvement and is actively progressing toward the status of accreditation. Candidate status is not accredited status and does not guarantee eventual accredited status.
Master of Health Administration

Requirements and prerequisites

You’ll need 36 credits to complete this program.

Relevant curriculum

Our MHA is designed in close collaboration with senior and executive leaders across the healthcare industry to anticipate emerging needs and trends in the health sector. Curriculum also aligns with competencies set by ACHE.

Novel Initiative

Our Novel Initiative, launched in 2017, incorporates literature into core Health Administration courses in order to cultivate a deeper sense of empathy. Why? Research shows engagement in the humanities helps lessen bias and understand others’ situations from their perspective. The Novel Initiative helps students prepare to navigate the complex life and death issues and diverse needs inherent to healthcare.

Novels utilized in the MHA curriculum include:

- “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” (Skloot, 2010)
- “The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down” (Fadiman, 1998)

The College of Health Professions implemented the Novel Initiative because effective leadership isn’t just about healthcare expertise and business acumen; it’s about empathy, too.

Core courses

- MHA516: Operating In Structure: Health Sector Policy And Governance
- MHA507: Leveraging Informatics In The Health Sector
- MHA520: Sector Stakeholders: Identifying And Cultivating Alliances
- MHA560: Creating A Sustainable Legacy: Healthy Communities
- MHA508: Navigating The Regulatory Environment In Health Care
- MHA515: Scanning The Health Sector As An Industry Expert
- MHA598: Leveraging Results To Build Brand In The Health Sector
- MHA599: Capstone: Leading The Organization Through Change
- MHA505: Systems Thinking In Health Care Environments
- MHA543: Tackling The Talent War In The Health Sector
- MHA542: Leading With Authenticity In The Health Sector
- MHA506: Ethical Marketing: The New Health Care Economics

While widely available, not all programs are available in all locations or in both online and on-campus formats. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.