

BS in Health Management

The Bachelor of Science in health management (BSHM) offers a pathway into entry and mid-level management careers in a hospital, long-term care facility or public health organization and serves as a foundation for success in graduate education in health administration, public health or aging studies. Students begin progress towards their degree by completing courses to build foundational knowledge and work with a faculty advisor to select one or more required concentrations to add advanced skills and knowledge in aging studies, clinical business management, health sciences or public health. Successful graduates of the BSHM additionally complete a capstone, applied learning professional portfolio and 160-hour practicum educational work experience. Qualified students have the option to advance their education through the dual/accelerated master's degree programs in health administration or aging studies. These programs allow students to use nine specified credit hours towards both the bachelor's and master's degree.

Program Learning Objectives

1. **Communication:** Communicate healthcare information, in oral and written forms using appropriate media tailored to specific audiences.
2. **Analytic Assessment:** Use healthcare information for analysis and decision making.
3. **Healthcare Policy and Administration:** Describe the evolution of the healthcare system and roles and issues across local, national and global health systems.
4. **Evidence Based Practice and Quality Improvement:** Demonstrate how to connect and use data to promote, protect and assure improved health outcomes and knowledge.
5. **Leadership and Management:** Exhibit an understanding of healthcare leadership, management and policy.
6. **Health Equity and Justice:** Describe social, behavioral, cultural and environmental factors that impact health.
7. **Professionalism:** Demonstrate a commitment to professionalism, ethics, stewardship and lifelong learning in healthcare.

Admission

Students admitted to WSU with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.000 or higher may self-select the Bachelor of Science in health management.

Program Requirements

Students choosing to study health management are admitted to the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in health management. They are assigned a college advisor and a faculty advisor in the degree program. Students are advised to choose one of the four concentrations (aging studies, public health, health administration or health science) early in their progress toward the degree to avoid taking extra or unnecessary classes. Students should select a concentration before enrolling in any concentration specific courses.

BS in health management concentrations:

- The two **aging studies** concentrations prepare students for either a career in aging services or for management in senior living communities. Both options prepare students for graduate education in aging studies.
 - a. The **general aging studies** (AGEG) option prepares students for a variety of entry level positions in senior centers, and nonprofit or for-profit aging organizations.

- b. The **senior living management** (AGESL) option prepares students to complete the administrator in training practicum or operator's license after completion of the BS in health management. This concentration can be taken for credit towards the dual accelerated bachelor's to master's degree in aging studies.

- The **public health** (PH) concentration prepares students for a variety of entry level positions in state and local health departments or health-related nonprofit and for-profit organizations and graduate education in public health.
- The **health administration** (HA) concentration prepares students for a variety of entry level management positions in nonprofit and for-profit clinical health care organizations and graduate education in health administration.
- The **health science** (HS) concentration prepares students for a variety of professional healthcare positions providing clinical, laboratory and sales support through government, academic and private organizations.

Students must be in the final year of their program of study and must be health management majors to take PHS 485 or PHS 495. Students enrolled in PHS 495 are required to purchase professional and general liability insurance coverage. The cost of this insurance is included in the university's comprehensive fee schedule and is part of the fee requirements for this major.

A minimum total of 120 credit hours is required for the BS in health management. Students in the health management program are required to maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.000, with no individual program course generating a grade less than 1.700 credit points per credit hour. In addition to meeting the requirements of the WSU General Education Program (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/academic-information/general-education-program/>) and the requirements of the College of Health Professions, students in the BS in health management program must take the following courses:

Course	Title	Hours
General Education		
Select courses to meet General Education requirements ¹		34-35
Health Management Required Courses		
MLS 203 or MLS 303	Medical Terminology ² Medical Terminology	2-3
PHS 100	Introduction to Aging Studies ²	3
PHS 101	Introduction to Public Health ²	3
PHS 310	Introduction to U.S. Healthcare and Administration ²	3
PHS 325	Epidemiology	3
PHS 326	Emerging Global Healthcare Issues	3
PHS 344	Culturally Informed Healthcare	3
PHS 356	Foundations of Healthcare Policy, Law and Ethics	3
PHS 408	Adaptive Leadership	3
PHS 410	Health Communication	3
PHS 428	Healthcare Organization	3
PHS 442	Foundations of Healthcare Finance	3
PHS 448	Foundations of Healthcare Quality	3

PHS 621	Effective Management in Healthcare ³	3
PHS 622	Human Resource Management in Healthcare ³	3
Concentration		
Select one of the concentrations below		15
Open Electives		
Select enough electives to reach 120 credit hours		25-27
Total Credit Hours		120

¹ Required major courses may also count towards General Education requirements. Students will need to select additional electives to reach 120 credit hours required for graduation with assistance from an advisor.

² These should be the first courses students complete in the degree program.

³ These courses can be used in the Dual/Accelerated BS in health management to Master of Health Administration (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/health-professions/health-sciences/public-health-sciences/dualaccelerated-bs-health-management-mha/>). Consult with the director of graduate programs (phs@wichita.edu (<http://catalog.wichita.eduemailto:phs@wichita.edu>)) prior to taking PHS 621 and PHS 622 to apply and create your plan of study.

General Aging Studies Concentration

This concentration is for students interested in entry-level positions with community services focused on serving the aging population. Community services can include senior centers, local or state agencies on aging, or other non-profits focusing specifically on the senior population.

Course	Title	Hours
General Aging Studies Concentration		
PHS 404	Psychology of Aging	3
PHS 405	Sociology of Aging	3
PHS 406	Biology of Aging	3
Culminating Experience		
PHS 494	Practicum Preparation ⁴	0
PHS 485	Capstone	3
PHS 495	Practicum	3
Total Credit Hours		15

⁴ PHS 494 must be successfully completed for enrollment in PHS 495.

Senior Living Management Concentration

This concentration can be taken for bachelor's credit only or for dual undergraduate/graduate credit within the Dual/Accelerated Bachelor's in health management to Master's in aging studies program. The senior living management concentration prepares students for the PHS 660 Administrator-in-Training Long-Term Care Practicum or a Long-Term Care Operators License course after completing the BS in health management.⁵

Course	Title	Hours
Senior Living Management Concentration		
PHS 560	Community Resources and Aging Network	3
PHS 562	Senior Living Operations	3
PHS 626	Senior Living Hospitality	3
Culminating Experience		
PHS 494	Practicum Preparation ⁶	0
PHS 485	Capstone	3

PHS 495	Practicum	3
Total Credit Hours		15

⁵ For more information about application to the Dual/Accelerated Bachelor's in health management to Master's in aging studies (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/health-professions/health-sciences/public-health-sciences/dualaccelerated-bachelors-degree-master-aging-studies/>), contact the director of graduate programs phs@wichita.edu.

⁶ PHS 494 must be successfully completed for enrollment in PHS 495.

Public Health Concentration

Course	Title	Hours
Public Health Required Courses		
PHS 416	Foundations of Environmental Health	3
PHS 617	Public Health Practice	3
PHS 618	Population Health Analytics	3
Culminating Experience		
PHS 494	Practicum Preparation ⁶	0
PHS 485	Capstone	3
PHS 495	Practicum	3
Total Credit Hours		15

⁶ PHS 494 must be successfully completed for enrollment in PHS 495.

Health Administration Concentration

Course	Title	Hours
Health Administration Required Courses		
PHS 478	Foundations of Healthcare Economics	3
PHS 447	Healthcare Operations	3
PHS 407	Foundations of Healthcare Informatics	3
-OR- If pursuing the accelerated MHA take PHS 807 for dual credit.		
Culminating Experience		
PHS 494	Practicum Preparation ⁶	0
PHS 485	Capstone	3
PHS 495	Practicum	3
Total Credit Hours		15

⁶ PHS 494 must be successfully completed for enrollment in PHS 495.

Health Science Concentration

Course	Title	Hours
Health Science Required Courses		
PHIL 327	Bioethics	3
PHS 300	Careers in Healthcare	3
PHS 331	Principles of Diet and Nutrition	3
Culminating Experience		
PHS 494	Practicum Preparation ⁶	0
PHS 485	Capstone	3
PHS 495	Practicum	3
Total Credit Hours		15

⁶ PHS 494 must be successfully completed for enrollment in PHS 495.

Graduation

Students majoring in department of public health sciences undergraduate programs (health science and health management) must fulfill Applied Learning Portfolio activities to successfully complete their degree. Evidence of completed activities along with written entry for each activity is required. You can find information about the Applied Learning Portfolio (https://www.wichita.edu/academics/health_professions/phs/undergraduate/portfolio.php)⁷ on the public health sciences' website. Questions about the Portfolio may be sent to the undergraduate program director at phs@wichita.edu.

To be eligible for graduation from Wichita State University, students must have 120 acceptable credit hours toward their degree and a grade point average (GPA) in the major of 2.000. Students transferring from a two-year college must complete at least 45 credit hours of upper-division coursework to qualify for graduation. Public health sciences (PHS) policy requires a program cumulative GPA of 2.000 with no individual program course generating a grade less than 1.700 credit points per credit hour.

For a program handbook and answers to questions about the program, contact the undergraduate coordinator by email: phs@wichita.edu, by phone at 316-978-3060, or visit the department of public health sciences website (<http://wichita.edu/phs/>).⁷

⁷ Link opens new window.

Departmental Honors Program

Scholarship and research are encouraged at the undergraduate level. Students who meet the qualifications should explore adding the honors program to their undergraduate major. Students who are not PHS majors and are involved in the Cohen Honors College, should contact the PHS department for permission to enroll in these courses, as appropriate.

Admission requirements include:

1. Status as a PHS major;
2. An overall GPA of 3.500 in all major coursework;
3. A one-page, double-spaced letter describing reasons for applying to the honors track, goals and potential benefits to participating in the program; and
4. Agreement by a PHS faculty member to mentor the final project.

Honors Program Requirements

Students admitted to the PHS honors track must complete the following:

1. Maintain a 3.500 cumulative GPA in all major coursework;
2. Be a participating member of the Health, Education, Advocates for Leadership, Teamwork and Humanity (HEALTH) student organization;
3. Maintain a portfolio of assignments, activities and reflections throughout the honors track;
4. Complete and present a mentored scholarly activity during the last year of the program by enrolling in a 1-3 credit hours of PHS 401H Field Research Public Health Science Honors; and
5. Enroll in and complete the honors assignments with a minimum of 12 credit hours of PHS coursework selected from the following options:

Course	Title	Hours
PHS 325H	Epidemiology Honors	3
PHS 344H	Culturally Informed Healthcare Honors	3
PHS 356H	Foundations of Healthcare Policy, Law and Ethics Honors	3
PHS 408H	Adaptive Leadership Honors	3
PHS 410H	Health Communication Honors	3

Students who have previously taken the courses above without honors can contact their advisor to see how they can earn honors credit.

Applied Learning

Students in the BS in health management program are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement can be met by completing the following program course requirements: PHS 485 Capstone and PHS 495 Practicum.