

Program Overview

The Master of Healthcare Administration (M.H.A.) Major in Healthcare Administration (Executive Concentration) offers courses designed to enhance the career mobility of persons currently employed in health professions. The primary focus of the curriculum is middle-to senior-level management.

This program is designed for students with U.S. healthcare or supervisory experience (preferred, not required); with proper documentation and validation students may be eligible for up to 6-hours of Prior Learning Assessment credit.

Principal areas of study include health and disease; sociological, economic, legal, and political forces which affect healthcare; and management organizational behaviors including such specializations as financial management, human resource management, planning, marketing, and data generation and analysis.

Application Requirements

- completed online application
 - \$55 nonrefundable application fee
- or
- \$90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
 - baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html>) for more information.)
 - official transcripts from **each institution** where course credit was granted
 - a 2.75 overall GPA or a 2.75 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
 - GRE is not required
 - resume/CV including relevant experience (e.g. employment, volunteer, internship, research, and other)
 - statement of purpose indicating the student's ability and interest in completing the degree program in healthcare administration and how their previous healthcare or supervisory experience qualifies them for success in the accelerated online program
 - two signed letters of recommendation from professionals or academics competent to assess the student's interest in pursuit of a career in healthcare administration

Approved English Proficiency Exam Scores

Applicants are required to submit an approved English proficiency exam score that meets the minimum program requirements below unless they have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a country on our exempt countries list (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/international/language.html#waver>).

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 85 overall
- official PTE scores required with a 57
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0

- official Duolingo Scores required with a 110 overall
- official TOEFL Essentials scores required with an 8.5 overall

This program does **not** offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Healthcare Administration (M.H.A.) degree with a major in Healthcare Administration requires 40 semester credit hours.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
HA 5300	Healthcare Organization and Delivery	3
HA 5303	Healthcare Analytics and Information System Management	3
HA 5304	Healthcare Financial Management I	3
HA 5316	Healthcare Financial Management II	3
HA 5321	Healthcare Law and Policy	3
HA 5325	Healthcare Quality and Operations Improvement	3
HA 5334	Data-Guided Healthcare Decision-Making	3
HA 5335	Public Health for Healthcare Administrators	3
HA 5346	Strategic Management and Marketing for Healthcare Organizations	3
HA 5355	Emerging Trends in Healthcare Human Resources	3
HA 5362	Healthcare Organizational Behavior, Theory, and Leadership	3
HA 5191	Program Competencies Assessments and Integrative Experience Preparation	1
HA 5640	Administrative Practicum ¹	6
Total Hours		40

Comprehensive Examination Requirement

All degree-seeking graduate students must pass a comprehensive examination at the end of the didactic portion of their program. The School of Health Administration administers comprehensive exams at the end of the fall and spring terms. Students with field placements on their degree audits must pass the comprehensive exam before they begin their field placement. Students who fail the comprehensive exam may take the exam again the next term it is offered. Two failures will result in dismissal from the program.

Procedures for Prior Learning Assessment Course Credit:

Students in the Executive M.H.A. program are able to complete a maximum of 6 hours of coursework through a prior learning assessment (PLA) evaluation process when they demonstrate mastery of applicable skills and learning outcomes. Students who have recent work, internship or externship experience, or externship opportunities while in the program, are able to substitute this experience for coursework.

Note that the total number of credits earned through PLA and course transfer must not exceed 6 semester credit hours (for criteria and processes for earning transfer credit, see the relevant section in the catalog). Students who apply for PLA credit must meet the following conditions:

- The request for PLA credit must be made in the student's first year in the program.
- The student must have recent work (last five years) or externship experience in course subjects.

A portfolio of written work is used to evaluate a student's work and experience for course credit. The student provides a summary document that includes the course description for each course for which they are requesting PLA credit, the student learning objectives/outcomes for the course, and a numbered and detailed explanation of how their experience demonstrates expertise in the subject matter.

In addition to the summary document, the student will include supporting materials in the form of appendices, which contain project reports, peer-reviewed publications, major organizational presentations, organization-wide education or program development, contracts, grant proposals, policies and procedures, and/or certifications.

The explanation should include in part for each course under consideration explicitly mapped to parts of the student's supported materials that demonstrate mastery of the course student learning objectives/outcomes.

There should be no "double dipping" of a student's supporting materials mapped to more than one course.

The portfolio is evaluated by a PLA evaluation committee, chaired by the Director of the Executive MHA Accelerated Online program, in partnership with the Residency Coordinator, the School of Health Administration Director, and two additional School of Health Administration faculty. Approval of the portfolio is required by the Executive MHA Program Director and a majority of the evaluation committee.

Once approval is recommended by the department, the Executive MHA Program Director submits a written petition to the Dean of The Graduate College to grant course credit for prior learning assessment. The petition must include the course for which credit is requested. The petition also includes the decision of the evaluating committee and the summary document created by the student. The appendices will be made available on request.

Master's level courses in Health Administration: HA

Courses Offered

Health Administration (HA)

HA 5111. Topics in Health Administration.

This course includes an in-depth study of a singular topic, or a related problem being encountered by practicing managers in the rapidly changing healthcare industry. Special emphasis is placed on the topic's current relevance and its utilitarian value. This course may be repeated for credit with a different topic area.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5191. Program Competencies Assessments and Integrative Experience Preparation.

This course prepares students for the end-of-program, final integrative comprehensive exam to assess students' program competencies. Students complete the final integrative comprehensive exam and prepare for an effective transition from the classroom setting to the contemporary healthcare organization work environment.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5199B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5299B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5300. Healthcare Organization and Delivery.

This course includes an overview and comparison of the organization and delivery of health services focusing on the history, development, and current delivery by organizations in the continuum of care. Through the course, students acquire foundational knowledge and management applications pertaining to governance, policy, organizational structures, stakeholders, research, and patient-centered care.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5301. Healthcare Administration Research Methods.

A study of research methodology as it pertains to healthcare administration. Included are hypothesis forming, designing research, and the collection, manipulation and analysis of data. Knowledge of numeracy and statistics is essential.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5303. Healthcare Analytics and Information System Management.

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to information systems management for healthcare organizations, with a focus on incorporating analytics for informed decision-making. It covers the determination of information required by whom, design of information flows, procurement of information systems technology resources, assurance of information security, and management of systems integration. Students gain skills in leveraging analytics for insights and trend analysis, optimizing technology solutions, and addressing the unique challenges of healthcare data management.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5304. Healthcare Financial Management I.

This course introduces selected financial management concepts and practices in healthcare organizations. It is a broad introduction to important financial theories, tools, issues, and terminology. Throughout the course, students apply financial management concepts in practical assignments related to health insurance and reimbursement methods, basic managerial accounting, interpretation of healthcare financial statements, cost and profit analysis, departmental and service-line costing and pricing, and planning and budgeting.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5311. Trends in Healthcare Administration.

This course offers students an in-depth study of a singular trend or related problem experienced by practicing managers in the rapidly changing healthcare industry. Special emphasis is placed on the selected topic's current relevance and its utilitarian value. Examples of trends can include processes or problems occurring in a specific delivery setting; ethical issues; emerging policy, regulation, or law implications; supply chain; and total quality management. This course may be repeated for credit with a different subject area.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5316. Healthcare Financial Management II.

This course builds on the concepts covered in Financial Management I and emphasizes development and application of analytical, statistical, and mathematical competencies pertaining to time value analysis, risk and return concepts, debt and equity financing, cost of capital, capital budgeting, project risk analysis, lease financing and working capital management.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5321. Healthcare Law and Policy.

This course addresses legal issues pertaining to health services as they relate to providers and consumers within the healthcare system. It covers the legal issues surrounding the relationship of patients, providers, and healthcare institutions and examines managerial and clinical ethics as they relate to the provision of health services. The course also addresses policy issues at state and national levels, including how to analyze policies and facilitate policy development, from the perspective of various stakeholders. Students evaluate changing healthcare policy paradigms and decision points.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5325. Healthcare Quality and Operations Improvement.

This course instructs the concepts of quality management in health care integrating quality improvement tools using continuous process improvement methodologies. Students learn to translate healthcare quality management theory, concepts, and knowledge into practice by applying statistical methods and analysis to eliminate defects, reduce waste, and deliver excellent patient/client experiences. Students gain familiarity with the quality standards required by federal and private organizations.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5334. Data-Guided Healthcare Decision-Making.

This course provides the foundation of quantitative reasoning with data evidence and emphasizes the critical nature of the group decision-making process. The course defines the scope and limitations of decision-making. The role of uncertainties in decision-making are illustrated with examples from health care. The adverse outcomes and their consequences in healthcare decisions are explored. The concepts and tools of decision-making trees are applied to improve the quality of decisions. Students practice identifying and rectifying root causes to mitigate risks of adverse outcomes.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5335. Public Health for Healthcare Administrators.

This course includes an examination of the ten essential services of public health and the role of the healthcare manager in disease prevention and improvement of the community's health, as well as public health surveillance. Students apply the core public health functions as a framework to contextualize public health issues. Students gain experience and practice identifying sources of data and examining peer-reviewed literature.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5346. Strategic Management and Marketing for Healthcare Organizations.

This capstone course builds upon analytical skills needed for making evidence-based strategic and marketing decisions. It covers the strategic planning/management process in the competitive healthcare industry including the assessment of both the external and internal environments and alignment of an organization's strengths and weaknesses with external threats and opportunities. The study of marketing functions, principles, and concepts as they relate to the healthcare delivery system is also included. Students develop skills by analyzing a real healthcare organization and recommending strategic and marketing decisions.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5355. Emerging Trends in Healthcare Human Resources.

This course identifies, analyzes, and suggests strategies for managing emerging human resource trends with a focus on the healthcare industry. Course emphasis includes responding to and providing leadership in the key human resource functions of employment, compensation, benefits, employee relations, leadership and staff development, and succession planning.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5356. Policy Development in Healthcare Arena.

Prospective healthcare administrators analyze changing healthcare paradigm to determine decision-points where policies can be affected. Course allows students to apply existing skills to real world policy issues at state and national levels and to analyze policy development from numerous stakeholders' viewpoints.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5362. Healthcare Organizational Behavior, Theory, and Leadership.

This course provides a foundation and conceptual framework for understanding and navigating healthcare organizational behavior, grounded in the study of organizational, management, leadership, motivation, teaming, and cultural theories, drawing from the behavioral and social sciences. Students learn and practice applied skills in communication, motivation, leadership, teaming, collaboration, facilitation, negotiation, decision-making, change and conflict management through an experiential-learning project.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5371. Marketing of Health Services.

A study of marketing functions and principles as they relate to the healthcare delivery system. Analysis of marketing concepts such as market segmentation, marketing planning, marketing audit, marketing positioning, and marketing mix will be discussed.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

HA 5375. Healthcare Accounting.

An introduction to financial accounting in healthcare with an emphasis on the preparation of non-profit financial statements for healthcare service organizations, control procedures for healthcare entities, and accounting issues unique to the healthcare industry. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling

Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

HA 5399A. Thesis.

This course represents students' initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until students have completed the thesis in Health Administration 5399B. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5399B. Thesis.

This course represents students' continuing thesis enrollments. Students continue to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5450. Administrative Field Placement.

A one-semester, full-time field experience which allows students to apply their foundational didactic education by means of rotations, experiences, and projects in a healthcare organization. This course is graded on a credit (CR), no-credit (F) basis. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

4 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 20 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5599B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5640. Administrative Practicum.

This course includes a one semester, part-time field experience designed for students with prior U.S. healthcare or supervisory experience and who work full-time in healthcare. The practicum provides a broader and more in-depth focus on students' exposure to special projects. This course is graded on a credit (CR), no credit (F) basis. Prior Level Assessment (PLA) for prior documented U.S. healthcare or supervisory experience occurs through the student's submission of a portfolio summarizing the recent experience, supported by artifacts (from the last 5 years), and approved by the PLA evaluation committee and the Graduate Dean.

6 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 20 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5840. Administrative Field Placement.

A one-semester, full-time field experience which allows students to apply their foundational didactic education by means of rotations, experiences, and projects in a healthcare organization.

8 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 40 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

HA 5999B. Thesis.

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.

9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit