

MASTER OF HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

Two great advantages of DMU's MHA program are the immediate application of knowledge and the opportunities it creates to advance in one's career. The program's real-world curriculum and interaction among students and faculty equip individuals to become leaders in health care organizations and government. Financial pressures, system complexities and the enduring need for effective, accessible care add up to great demand and opportunity for these leaders.

An MHA degree is a business degree for health services leaders and managers. DMU's MHA program focuses on the intricacies of the health care industry and prepares students to lead their organizations to meet and exceed community needs. In the program, you will:

- plan your education and set goals that reflect industry standards for health care administration
- advance your career as you gain knowledge, skills and understanding you can immediately apply
- help increase efficiencies in the health care system through practical class projects and independent study
- recognize and incorporate practices and protocols that drive research, scholarly activity and data collection
- monitor your continued professional growth through periodic self assessment.

THE PROGRAM

The program is designed to fit your schedule and your life. Its rigorous mix of online courses and on-cam-

pus executive residencies reflect health care's high touch, high tech world. Your understanding of health services will expand as you interact with a diverse group of professionals.

Students engage in active learning with small-group assignments, online posting boards, readings, class discussions and individual projects. The program's on-campus executive residencies immerse you in real-world scenarios that integrate evidence-based health administration theory into practice. A blend of online and face-to-face learning produces the highest student outcomes, reports the U.S. Department of Edu-

cation. You'll learn from faculty who are passionate about and involved in health care and who consider students their top priority. The program attracts highly motivated students from all aspects and settings in health care from across the country, further enriching your learning experience.

THE CURRICULUM

The MHA program is composed of 48 credit hours, including 13 hours of face to face on-campus course work which is completed by attending our executive residency workshops. Course content is designed to embody the recommendations and competency-based model of the National Center for Healthcare Leadership (NCHL).

EXECUTIVE RESIDENCIES

Designed to enrich your professional development, executive residencies are on-campus sessions that bring together students for intense learning, discussion and professional interaction. Students are required to participate in three residencies during the program, each five days in length. Residencies are offered twice each year. Topics include human relations management, strategy formulation and implementation, and health care operations assessment and improvement.

High need, great opportunities

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, health care will generate 3.2 million new jobs between 2008 and 2018, more than any other industry, largely in response to our growing elderly population and retirement of current professionals. Ten of the 20 fastest growing occupations are related to health care. Advances

REQUIRED COURSES	CREDIT HOURS
Advisor Connection*/Orientation	0
Executive Residency 1: on campus	
Professional Development Seminar I: Blending Theory with Practice	2
Health Care Human Relations Management	3
Overview of the US Health System	3
Health Care Finance I	3
Health Care Statistics and Research	3
Organizational Behavior and Leadership Theory	3
Legal and Ethical I: The Business of Health Care	2
Legal and Ethical II: Clinical Decision Making	2
Organization Development	3
Health Care Finance II	3
Health Information Management	3
Population Health and Managerial Epidemiology	2
Executive Residency 2: on campus	
Professional Development Seminar II: Blending Theory with Practice	1
Strategy Formulation and Implementation	2
Health Care Economics and Policy	3
Strategic Marketing and Communications	3
Health Care Operations	2
Executive Residency 3: on campus	
Professional Development Seminar III: Blending Theory with Practice	1
Quality Tools - Application Lab	1
Field Based Learning Practicum	3
TOTAL	48

in clinical medicine and technology, the need to control costs and increase health care access, and the industry's growing complexity further underscore the ongoing need for well-trained professionals able to manage these changes and challenges.

Interact with health care leaders

Membership in the Des Moines University Health Leaders gives students opportunities to interact with health care executives from the community. Membership maximizes the benefits of your MHA degree and supplements course material. The group participates in the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Higher Education Network. Members of DMU Health Leaders gain student membership in ACHE and membership in the Iowa Health Care Leaders.

THE ADMISSION PROCESS

Minimum requirements for admission

- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university
- A recommended minimum GPA of 3.0
- A completed HAMPCAS application (see below)
- Three (3) letters of recommendation (at least one from a current or recent supervisor)
- Two (2) Admission Essays

Apply online Applicants must submit the online application through the centralized application Health Administration, Management & Policy Centralized Application Service (HAMPCAS,

www.hampcas.org). HAMPCAS is the first national centralized application service designed for students applying to graduate programs in health care administration, health care management and health policy. The service enables applicants to apply to multiple colleges and schools through a single web-based application. Visit the program website, www.dmu.edu/mha/how-to-apply, for current information. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the DMU website and contact the Enrollment Management office to discuss admission requirements prior to application. Admission criteria are subject to change; all current information is posted on the website.

Most application materials will be submitted directly through the HAMPCAS application. Supplemental materials may be sent to:

MHA Admission
Des Moines University
3200 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50312

What happens next? Applications are accepted throughout the year but are reviewed only following the posted application deadlines (May 1 and Oct 1). Only completed files are reviewed following the deadlines.

Tuition and financial aid

Tuition for the 2011-2012 academic year is charged at a rate of \$504 per semester hour. Students may be eligible for financial aid if registered for at least five semester hours per term. For more information on financial aid at DMU, visit www.dmu.edu/fa.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How long will it take to earn a degree?

A: Part-time students can complete the MHA program in less than four years. Full-time students can complete the degree in just over two years. All students have up to seven years from the date of acceptance to complete all requirements for the degree.

Q: Can I earn a degree online?

A: 75% of MHA course work is available entirely online. Starting in fall 2012, students will complete 25% of the program by attending the on-campus Executive Residency workshops. These residencies are an essential component in preparing highly competent health care leaders. Each five-day residency is offered twice a year, allowing for greater flexibility for working professionals.

Q: I have a high-pressure full-time job and a family. Can I really earn an MHA?

A: Yes. The majority of our students are employed full-time while enrolled in the MHA program. They have families and numerous other commitments that come with working your way up the ladder in health care administration. The program's structure – with its mix of online and on-campus courses and full- and part-time enrollment options – provides exactly the flexibility needed to manage a busy lifestyle. An additional bonus to this lifestyle: You will be able to apply concepts from the classroom directly to your workplace environment.

Q: When is the application deadline?

A: We accept students to start the program each year in fall and spring, with these deadlines:

- Fall admission: May 1, 2012
- Spring admission: October 1, 2012

Q: What kind of undergraduate degree is necessary for admission?

A: We accept a bachelor's degree in any field from a regionally accredited college or university.

Q: Are graduate test scores such as the GRE or GMAT required?

A: No, graduate test scores are not required for admission.

Q: Can I transfer credits from another program or receive credit for a previously earned master's degree?

A: Students have the potential to earn up to 22 hours of transfer credit for previously earned graduate credit. Faculty review requests for graduate transfer credit only after a student has been admitted to the program.

QUESTIONS?

Check us out at www.dmu.edu/mha. Or you can reach us via e-mail at mhaadmit@dmu.edu, or by phone at 515-271-1538.



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