

Health-Care Administration — M.H.A.

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The School of Public Health offers a Master of Health-Care Administration (M.H.A.) degree. The degree provides students with a broad understanding of health-care management in line with appropriate and relevant industry-leading competencies. In addition, students will engage in practical experience to apply the principles learned through an 800-hour practicum in the health sector. Graduates are prepared for administrative careers in health service organizations—including medical centers, health plans, physician groups and dental practices, and long-term and managed-care settings, among others.

This degree program provides students with the knowledge, skills, and practice necessary to further their administrative careers in the health-care sector.

Health professionals who are currently employed and have at least five years of professional work experience in health-care administration are eligible to apply for a waiver of up to 9 units.

Learner outcomes

Upon completion of this degree, the student should be able to:

- Describe key aspects of the health-care environment.
- Demonstrate leadership skills and accountability aptitude.
- Integrate strategic awareness and innovative thinking.
- Apply business management skills and stewardship principles.
- Develop awareness of public health issues and policies.

Vision statement

The M.H.A. degree program in the School of Public Health aims to be globally recognized as a provider of excellent, quality health-care management education with an emphasis on service, using a values-based approach to confront health-care issues. Students will be prepared to confront and solve complex problems in health-care delivery using evidence-based analytics, theory, and practice.

Mission statement

The mission of the M.H.A. degree program in the School of Public Health is to provide quality education to new and midcareer professionals locally, nationally, and globally who are interested in health-care management. The program fully integrates a health-care perspective in all course work, which is guided by theoretical frameworks, scholarship, and informed practice. Faculty

practice holistic Christian principles and seek to develop students into conscientious and ethical leaders who will integrate innovative solutions to health-care challenges.

Values

In addition to the seven values held by Loma Linda University, the M.H.A. degree program also upholds the following:

Professionalism—The demonstration of ethics, sound professional practice, social accountability, and community stewardship. The desire to act in a way that is consistent with one's values and what one says is important.

Initiative—Identifying a problem, obstacle, or opportunity; and taking action in light of this identification to address current or future problems or opportunities. Initiative should be seen in the context of proactively doing things and not simply thinking about future actions.

Collaboration—The ability to work cooperatively with others, to be part of a team. Collaboration applies when a person is a member of a group of people functioning as a team.

Accountability—The ability to hold people accountable to standards of performance or to ensure compliance using the power of one's position or force of personality appropriately and effectively, with the long-term good of the organization in mind.

Educational effectiveness

Educational effectiveness will be determined by papers, presentations, experiential exercises, tests, field practicum projects/papers, and an exit interview. There will also be a competency inventory survey conducted two times during the student's program of study at Loma Linda University—upon starting the M.H.A. degree program and at the end upon completion of all classes and the practicum experience.

Educational effectiveness indicators

Program learner outcomes as evidenced by:

- Signature assignments linked to course requirements and program learning outcomes
- Field practicum report
- Culminating experience

Prerequisites

The following undergraduate-level courses are required and may be taken as a MOOC or other online course where a certificate is received.

- Micro-economics (one course)
- Accounting (one course)

Health-care administration practicum

The Master of Health-Care Administration (MHA) includes supervised practical opportunities for emerging and experienced administrative health-care professionals. Students from this program with little to no health-care leadership experience will engage an 800-hour practicum in a health-care setting such as a hospital, long-term care facility, community clinic, or other health-care related organization. Students who enter the program with five years or more of health-care leadership experience will complete a project based practical experience where they will work with a health-care organization and assist or lead a current project in consultation with faculty and the organizations leaders.

The purpose of the practical experience is to provide students with the opportunity to apply academic learning in an interdisciplinary environment and to integrate public health concepts and skills from their program of study. The depth and breadth of the experience varies by site location and project availability. This is done in the context of carefully planned and implemented field-based experience, in a real world setting. The practical experience is participatory in nature, rather than observational and is designed to address students' program competencies and career interests, while also making contributions to the site or organization where they are placed.

While the assigned hours will be spent at the organization, the student's work will be guided and evaluated through a course they have registered for on Canvas/LiveText. The units each student will need to register for will vary according to the hours or projects that they will complete each quarter. The Practicum Coordinator and/or Program Director will work closely with students and their mentors in monitoring student progress. Students will present their experiences to the program faculty and site supervisors in final papers and oral presentations.

Students who are accepted into the program with five years or more of health-care management experience will complete a consulting project focusing on identified weak areas within the Program Learning Outcomes. These students will work with Program Faculty to arrange and complete the requirements in a directed study course to meet these requirements.

Students who are accepted into the program from a clinical background or enrolled in a professional clinical program who are also enrolled in the M.H.A. degree program are required to complete 400 hours in their practicum as their clinical education is counted as exposure to practical and professional development.

Individuals who may benefit from the program

Individuals interested in management and administrative careers in health service organizations—including hospitals, health plans, physician groups and dental practices, and long-term and managed-care settings, among others.

Public health core

HADM 505	Managerial Statistics and Epidemiology for Healthcare	4
PHCJ 606	Public Health Fundamentals	3

Major

HADM 506	Fundamentals of Health-Care Finance	3
HADM 507	Principles of Accounting in Health Care	3
HADM 514	Health-Care Economics	3
HADM 528	Organizational Behavior in Health Care	3
HADM 529	Applied Leadership Concepts in Health-Care Organizations	3
HADM 534	Health-Care Law	3
HADM 542	Managerial Accounting for Health-Care Organizations	3
HADM 555	Health-Care Delivery Systems	3
HADM 559	Health-Care Marketing	3
HADM 564	Health-Care Finance	3
HADM 574	Managing Human Resources in Health-Care Organizations	3
HADM 575	Management Information Systems in Health Care	3
HADM 601	Quantitative Methods in Health-Care Management	3
HADM 604	Health Systems Strategic Planning	3
HADM 605	Health-Care Quality Management	3
HADM 607	Orientation to Professionalism Seminar	1
HADM 690	Health-Care Management Capstone	3

Religion

RELE 535	Ethical Issues in Health-Care Management	3
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Electives ¹	3
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Total Units	62
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Practical experience

Practicum units are in addition to the minimum didactic units required for the degree	16
HADM 724A Health-Care Administration Practicum (Total of 16 units/800 hours) ²	2-8
or HADM 724B Health-Care Administration Practicum	
or HADM 724C Health-Care Administration Practicum	
or HADM 724D Health-Care Administration Practicum	

¹ Choose a course in consultation with advisor

² May substitute with HADM 594 Applied Health-Care Administration Project for 2-4 units per approval of practicum director.

Noncourse requirements

Culminating experience. The M.H.A. degree student is required to produce a final report at the end of the practicum experience and to present the findings at a formal presentation arranged as part of the grade for the practicum course. They will also complete a final project and portfolio as part of the Integrated Capstone ([HADM 690](#) Health-Care Management Capstone).

Professional membership. During their first quarter, students are required to secure and maintain membership in the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) for the duration of the M.H.A. degree program.

Colloquia. Participation in ten hours of noncredit colloquia designed to acquaint students with various aspects of the health-care industry is required of all students.

Normal time to complete the program

2 years (7 academic quarters) based on full-time enrollment; part time permitted