The master of health administration (MHA), health systems management program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (http://cahme.org/) (CAHME). The United States Department of Education and Council on Higher Education Accreditation have granted formal recognition to CAHME as the only organization to accredit master’s level health care management programs in the United States and Canada. This master’s program prepares future executives to assume leadership positions in health care organizations. We prepare health care professionals with strategic, business, analytic, and decision-making skills needed to successfully navigate the evolving health care industry.

This 47-credit hour program prepares students to work as leaders and executive-level managers in evolving health systems, or as consultants and managers of health-related organizations. The curriculum was developed in response to the demand for advanced health management preparation for a variety of health care and allied health professionals to be employed in both the public and private sectors of health care.

### Admissions & Policies

**Admissions**

**Requirements**

Applicants must hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution (http://admissions.gmu.edu/grad/accreditation/) and have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA to be considered. Admission to the program is competitive, and a variety of criteria are evaluated in the admission decision. For application deadlines and detailed application requirements, refer to the CHHS Admissions website (https://chhs.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/standards-requirements-and-deadlines/). Applicants are evaluated based on past academic performance (including prior academic degrees and courses taken), letters of recommendation, personal professional goal statement and professional experience. Work experience in the healthcare industry is preferred, but not required for admission. The application materials are used to determine the applicant’s “match” with the program and potential for success in graduate studies. Applicants who are deemed to meet the above criteria are required to have a brief personal interview with faculty. Applicants who are unable to attend a personal interview will be interviewed through video conferencing technology.

**Policies**

For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP6 Graduate Policies (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/).

**Transfer of Credit**

Students may transfer a maximum of 12 credits from graduate courses taken at other institutions or taken at Mason in non-degree status. Transfer credit is subject to university (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/) and college (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/) policies and must be approved by the program director and the dean. Students who enroll initially through non-degree studies should seek course advising through the department and should submit their application to the MHA program in their first semester of study.

### Program Format

The MHA in Health Systems Management is offered in both on-campus and online delivery formats. The curriculum is the same whether you are studying online or on campus, but students must apply to and matriculate through only one pathway.

Most courses in the on-campus program are taught in the evening at Mason’s Fairfax Campus. Additionally, some courses are offered on Saturdays, a few are offered at the Arlington Campus, and a small percentage can be taken online. Students can complete their degree at their own pace provided that they do so within six years of starting the program.

The online premium priced program is offered in a flexible, online format, which mirrors the CAHME-accredited on-campus program. Courses are taken one at a time in an accelerated 8 week format.

### English Language Test Score Thresholds

International students whose scores on the English Language Tests are below the thresholds required by the program must take EAP 508 Graduate Communication in the Disciplines III (Credits: 4) in their first semester of study and earn a grade of B (3.0) or higher. This will add 4 credits to the 47 credit hour program for a total of 51 credits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Listening</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Speaking</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL IBT</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOEFL PBT</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>62</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL CBT</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTE</td>
<td>65+</td>
<td>Subsections 68+</td>
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<td>IELTS</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Requirements

**Degree Requirements**

Total credits: 47-51

The program of study comprises 47-51 credits grouped into two phases of study. International students whose scores on the English Language Tests are below the thresholds required by the program are required to take EAP 508 - Graduate Communication in the Disciplines III (http://catalog.gmu.edu/preview_course_nopop.php?catoid=298&coid=308575/) (Credits: 4) in their first semester of study and earn a grade of B (3.0) or higher. This will increase the degree requirements for these students from 47 to 51 credits.

**Required Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HAP 678</td>
<td>Introduction to the U.S. Health System</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 621</td>
<td>Organization Behavior and Healthcare Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 715</td>
<td>Health Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 670</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Informatics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 652</td>
<td>Essentials of Health Insurance and Managed Care</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 750</td>
<td>Legal Issues in Health Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 707</td>
<td>Human Resource Management in Healthcare</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Phase II - Problem Resolution and Decision Making**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HAP 602</td>
<td>Statistics in Health Services Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 708</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods in Health Care Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 711</td>
<td>Quality Improvement in Health Services</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 703</td>
<td>Financial Management in Health Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 702</td>
<td>Managerial Accounting in Health Care</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 746</td>
<td>Health Policy Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or HAP 742</td>
<td>Health Policy Development and Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 705</td>
<td>Strategic Management and Marketing in Health Care</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 704</td>
<td>Contemporary Issues in Health Systems Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP 790</td>
<td>Capstone Practicum in Health Systems Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits**: 47

International students whose scores on the English Language Tests are below required thresholds are required to take EAP 508 Graduate Communication in the Disciplines III in their first semester of study and earn a grade of B (3.0) or higher. This will increase the degree requirements for these students from 47 to 51 credits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EAP 508</td>
<td>Graduate Communication in the Disciplines III</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>