Enhancing Quality and Organizational Effectiveness

The Graduate Program in Health Systems Administration has a competency-based curriculum that provides key management and leadership skills to improve health care quality and organizational performance. The program also emphasizes the need for future leaders to be grounded in professional values, responsive to community needs, and critical, reflective thinkers.

Students acquire an in-depth understanding of the role of management in health care delivery organizations. Since these organizations are among the most complex institutions in society, they provide rich learning opportunities for students to develop and hone their managerial skills.

Graduates make important contributions to diverse health care organizations. Their education at Georgetown is informed by the Jesuit tradition, and they strive to improve quality of care and organizational effectiveness through a holistic, analytical, and reflective approach.

In order to facilitate student acquisition of this skill set, classes are small, highly interactive, and based in real-world issues and cases. In addition, the Executive Mentorship Program and the five-month residency provide students with valuable experience in the health care industry.

Students come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. Some are recent college graduates. Some have worked in the health field as clinicians or managers. Others hold advanced degrees in related fields (e.g., public health). This diversity is a microcosm of the health care field, providing an opportunity for students to learn from each other as well as from leading faculty. The most important characteristics students possess include intellectual curiosity, an intense interest in understanding the health care system, and a commitment to improve quality and organizational performance in health care systems.

The Executive Mentorship Program

Every graduate student is paired with an executive mentor while they are enrolled in this program. This mentorship program provides direct and continuing contact with an executive who is facing the daily challenges of health care management. Mentors advise students on career interests, part-time jobs, and course related projects. The program often leads to job placement. The student and mentor meet soon after the program begins and continue to meet at least every two months thereafter.

Dynamic Learning Opportunities

The Department of Health Systems Administration provides opportunities for students to obtain practical experience in a variety of health care delivery organizations, including major hospitals in the Baltimore/Washington area. In addition, a number of executives teach or lecture in courses and serve as mentors to students.

Administrative Residency
The administrative residency is an opportunity to learn from a health care professional who is committed to mentorship. Students are assisted with placement in residencies in a variety of health care settings throughout the Washington, DC, region.

Opportunities for Graduates
Graduates are prepared for the full range of managerial roles in a variety of organizations that deliver, finance, regulate, and supply health services, including health insurance plans, governmental agencies, consulting, and pharmaceutical companies. The largest employers of our graduates are hospitals and health systems. Employers of our graduates include the American College of Cardiology, hospitals in the Inova Health and MedStar Health systems, Booz Allen Hamilton, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Opportunities also exist in medical group practices, long-term care institutions, home health services, freestanding diagnostic centers, and wellness programs. Graduates also work in consulting organizations and professional associations at both the local and national levels. In this dynamic environment, new types of organizations and opportunities continually emerge for which this degree is an excellent foundation.

Graduate Assistantship Positions
A limited number of Graduate Assistant (GA) positions are available. These positions support faculty in a variety of teaching, research, and continuing education initiatives. Candidates who wish to be considered for a Graduate Assistantship are strongly encouraged to apply by December 1.

Admissions Information
An introductory accounting course must be taken prior to enrolling in the program. In addition, applicants must demonstrate a capacity for strong quantitative skills as well as strong writing skills. For complete admissions requirements, please visit http://nhs.georgetown.edu/healthsystems/masters/admissions.

Coursework
Schedule and curriculum subject to change
HESY 484 – Paying for Health Care
HESY 623 – Health Policy and Systems
HESY 625 – Organizational Leadership
HESY 626 – Hospital Management
HESY 630 – Financial Management I
HESY 632 – Financial Management II
HESY 635 – Health Care Management Statistics
HESY 640 – Human Resource Management
HESY 645 – Quality/Performance Improvement Concepts
HESY 646 – Quality/Performance Improvement Methods
HESY 650 – Epidemiology and Population Health
HESY 657 – Health Care Strategic Planning and Marketing
HESY 660 – Health Care Economics
HESY 665 – Health Law
HESY 670 – Health Information Systems
HESY 675 – Managerial Ethics in Health Care
HESY 699 – Integrative Case I
HESY 700 – Integrative Case II
HESY 702 – Management of Health Care Organizations/Residency
Electives
Sample Electives
Health Care Management Consulting
Disruptive Innovations in Health Care
Practice Management
Policy Analysis

Additional Program Requirements (non-credit):
• Attendance at academic symposia, field trips, and leadership seminars
• Community service/civic engagement
• Membership in at least one professional healthcare organization
• Clinical exposure

http://healthsystems.georgetown.edu