MS
PhD

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH, POLICY & ADMINISTRATION

The Health Services Research, Policy & Administration MS and PhD programs engage students in a multidisciplinary examination of the social, political, and economic forces that affect the operations, financing and delivery of healthcare.

The programs prepare students with rich and relevant research skills to influence policy and impact health systems in meaningful and challenging careers.

Gain the health research and analytics skills needed to translate data into evidence for improving health care.

PROGRAM OPTIONS & CURRICULUM

PhD, 72-82 CREDITS

The PhD program prepares graduates to conduct sophisticated empirical studies and formulate policy options using a wide range of quantitative and qualitative analytic techniques. The curriculum is highly quantitative, emphasizing systems analysis and design, while also incorporating essential training in core public health concepts and skills.

Students customize their degree by choosing one of seven areas of emphasis. The chosen area of emphasis will become the foundation for the dissertation.

Areas of emphasis include:
• Clinical Outcomes Research
• Health Decision Science
• Health Economics
• Health Policy Analysis
• Multidisciplinary Social Science
• Sociology of Health and Illness

MS, 34 CREDITS

The MS program focuses on the research and analytic methods underlying evidence-based decision-making. Students gain knowledge and skills in managing health-related data, such as electronic medical records, surveys, and health care claims.

Students complete at least 34 credits as follows:
• Core courses (19-20 credits)
• Elective courses (14-15 credits)

Elective credits can be applied to any of the following specialty areas. Students choose specialization areas in consultation with their adviser. Students may also design and propose their own specialization area in consultation with their adviser.

• Cost Effectiveness
• Health Care Quality Improvement/Operations Research
• Health Services Research and Evaluation
• Health Policy
• Health Economics
• Social Determinants of Health

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Connected. The HRSP&A program has relationships with numerous national, state, and local public and private health organizations, creating opportunities for our students.

Flexible. Through robust elective course offerings and online options, students tailor their education to suit their unique interests and needs.

High ranking. A degree from a top 10 school of public health provides distinction in competitive career environments.

Strong Values. Our program is rooted in the principles of social justice and is committed to serving vulnerable populations.

ON THE CUSP OF A CHANGING FIELD

The doctoral program in HSRP&A is designed primarily for students interested in academic careers or senior research positions in government agencies, managed care, and health insurance provider and consulting organizations.

The MS program is designed to train health services researchers to work in managed care organizations, health insurance companies, medical device companies, health research organizations, departments of public health, and other health related industries. These professionals translate data into evidence for improving health care, reducing costs, finding efficiencies, and improving performance and patient outcomes, and influencing health policy.

POSITIONS HELD BY GRADUATES OF THESE PROGRAMS

North Memorial Health Care
Clinical Integration Analyst

Premier, Inc.
Principal Research Scientist

Purdue University
Assistant Professor

United Health Group
Research Analyst

Mayo Clinic
Senior Director of Clinical Outcomes

Yale University
Post-Doctoral Fellow

EXPERT FACULTY

The MS and PhD programs in HSRP&A are built on a mentoring philosophy where students engage often with School of Public Health faculty (one profiled below) who are deeply involved in current policy-making and research.

Beth Virnig, *professor and senior associate dean, conducts cancer research using big data, and is involved in research that examines the use of health care by the elderly in the Medicare program, with a focus on hospice use, cancer surveillance and care, and Medicare managed care.*

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Official transcripts
- GRE test scores
- 3 letters of recommendation
- Resume or C.V.
- Statement of Purpose and Objectives

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Scholarship consideration deadline: **December 1**.
Final deadline: **February 1** (PhD); **April 1** (MS).

LEARN MORE

SPH.UMN.EDU

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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**SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH**
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA