# 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 skills needed to harness health data through comprehensive curriculum, expert faculty, and close ties to Fortune 500 companies and local healthcare industry partners.**

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### 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.

In just one year, students learn how to improve healthcare by reducing costs, creating efficiencies in the supply chain, and managing performance and patient outcomes.

### 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

**Students complete at least 34 credits as follows:**
- Required courses (21-22 credits)
- Elective courses (12-13 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

## ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

**Location.** The School of Public Health is located within the Academic Health Center and at the University of Minnesota, allowing for collaboration and a multidisciplinary approach to learning.

**Tailored options.** Six areas of emphasis allow you to tailor your education to your interests. Our program also offers a joint degree in Law, Health and the Life Sciences (JD/PhD) with the Law School and an MD/PhD joint degree with medicine.

**Collaborative degree.** Through a collaboration with the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, you can focus your studies on workplace injury policy with the Occupational Health Services Research and Policy PhD.

**Breadth.** The Division of Health Policy and Management is home to five research centers that provide research opportunities to students and are rich sources for dissertation data.

## CAREERS

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 healthcare by reducing costs, finding efficiencies, improving performance and patient outcomes, and influencing health policy.

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.

## POSITIONS HELD BY GRADUATES

**North Memorial Healthcare**
Clinical Integration Analyst

**Premier, Inc.**
Principal Resesarch Scientist

**Purdue University**
Assistant Professor

**United Health Group**
Research Analyst

**Mayo Clinic**
Senior Director of Clinical Outcomes

## 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.



**Sarah Gollust**, *associate professor, is a researcher with a focus on translating health information into media, shaping public attitudes, and impacting health policy. Gollust applies her insights to address public health issues like obesity, disparities, and cancer prevention. She also teaches public health ethics and policy analysis, sharing her work with diverse organizations.*

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

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

## LEARN MORE

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