Master of Health Administration
“The health care environment is in such a state of dynamic flux that organizations must either adapt or risk failure. When health care organizations fail, the repercussions impact every level of the community—from regional economic viability to individual access to care.

Our goal is to provide World Campus Master of Health Administration students with skills they can immediately use to help their organizations adapt strategically and efficiently—so they can continue to serve every member of the community who needs their care and support.”

—Chris Calkins, Ph.D.
Outreach Assistant Professor and Executive Director,
World Campus Master of Health Administration
The health care system of the future must focus on greater efficiency and quality through improved technology, organization, and management. There is already a growing need for new leaders who can find solutions to the problems we face both now and in the future. This rapid evolution of the health care environment means that updating your education is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity.

A Master of Health Administration in Health Policy and Administration (MHA) can help you combine your work experience in health care with a strong business management education so you can become more highly qualified for challenging leadership positions in health care—giving you the tools you need to lead change in such a dynamic environment.

If you have work experience in health care and want to enhance your business management skills, Penn State’s online MHA program is designed for you.
### Master of Health Administration Curriculum

Penn State’s online MHA program spans seven continuous semesters and is composed of thirteen online courses, an integrative online residency experience, and two face-to-face management intensives, totaling 49 credits and designed to be completed in twenty-eight months. An online orientation precedes the first semester of courses.

#### Semester 1
- **H P A 503**—Health Services Organizational Behavior (3 credits)
- **H P A 520**—Introduction to Health Services Organizations and Delivery (3 credits)

#### Semester 2
- **H P A 447**—Financing Health Care (3 credits)
- **H P A 822**—Clinical Issues for Health Services Management (3 credits)

#### Semester 3
- **H P A 527**—Health Care Operations Management (3 credits)
- **H P A 524**—Management of Health Services Organizations (3 credits) *(Held as part of the Third-Semester Management Intensive)*
- **H P A 805**—Change Leadership in Health Services Organizations (3 credits) *(Held as part of the Third-Semester Management Intensive)*

#### Semester 4
- **H P A 551**—Quality Improvement in Health Care (3 credits)
- **H P A 523**—Managerial Epidemiology (3 credits)
- **H P A 595**—Residency (1 credit) Designed in consultation with the lead faculty member—typically within a student’s own organization.

#### Semester 5
- **H P A 835**—Financial Management in Health Services Institutions (3 credits)
- **H P A 850**—Health Care Marketing (3 credits)

#### Semester 6
- **H P A 545**—Introduction to Health Economics (3 credits)
- **Elective**—Students can choose from complementary online courses available (3 credits)

#### Semester 7
- **H P A 836**—Health Law (3 credits)
- **H P A 855**—Information Systems in Health Services Administration (3 credits)
- **H P A 556**—Strategy Development in Health Services Organization (3 credits) *(Held as part of the Seventh-Semester Management Intensive)*
Management Intensives—Develop Your Leadership Competencies

Meet with your classmates and faculty to complete 9 credits of MHA program coursework in two uniquely designed, face-to-face management intensives. These include classroom components and programsponsored events and are designed to give you an enhanced learning experience in such key areas as change, leadership, strategic management, and collaboration.

The first management intensive is held during the third semester of the program and will last no longer than two weeks. (The specific length and location of the session will be determined in consultation with each cohort.) The second in-person learning experience takes place one week during the seventh semester. Attendance at these face-to-face learning experiences is required. Room and board are covered by your tuition charges; however, you must arrange and pay for your own travel to the management intensives.

Career Opportunities for Graduates

Influenced by the fields of health care and business management, Penn State’s 49-credit online MHA program can provide you with a solid foundation that combines both of these disciplines. The courses have been designed to prepare you for the requirements of increased accountability, organization, and management—emphasizing competencies in ethical leadership, critical thought, and oral and written communication.

Dynamic change and steady job growth in health care are projected for the next several years. As a graduate of the program, you could obtain an administrative, management, or executive position in one of several health care–related organizations, including:

- hospitals and health systems
- medical group practices
- clinics and outpatient care centers
- home health care agencies
- skilled nursing facilities
- insurance companies
- consulting firms
- federal regulatory and public health agencies
Collaboration

Penn State World Campus has many years of experience providing global access to a real university education, so you can be assured that the course content provides far more than a textbook on a screen. The online environment of the MHA program is highly interactive and collaborative, allowing you to interact frequently with your faculty, providing even greater opportunities to share insights and reinforce what you are learning. And, with our global learning community of adult learners exchanging ideas and experiences, you will be as close to the face-to-face experience as possible.

Faculty Expertise

We believe that our online courses should be taught by the same industry-respected faculty who teach our on-campus courses. The online MHA is a collaboration between Penn State World Campus and Penn State’s Department of Health Policy and Administration and School of Public Affairs. The partnership connects you with faculty from a highly ranked program, with a forty-year history of experience guiding student learning. The residential program’s 4,000+ alumni and professional contacts help maintain the focus on health care’s current leadership challenges.

Online Learning Experience

The online learning format offered by Penn State World Campus makes it possible for you to fit a degree program into your life. The flexibility of studying when and where you want can give you the opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge you need to make critical decisions that can affect the lives of your patients and employees.

As a distance education pioneer, Penn State has developed a nationally recognized support system for students who are geographically removed from campus. Our offerings have received high satisfaction ratings from students in terms of course content and student services.

Accreditation

Penn State has twenty-five years of experience in providing quality graduate-level health administration programs, offering a residential MHA program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME). The expertise and curriculum offered residentially will now be provided in the online format to meet the unique needs of working professionals.
Admissions decisions for the Master of Health Administration degree program are based on the quality of your credentials, relative to those of other applicants, after a thorough review of the completed application portfolio.

To apply, visit [www.worldcampus.psu.edu/MHA-Apply](http://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/MHA-Apply).

**Your application portfolio must include:**
- online application form and fee
- personal statement
- résumé
- two references
- two official transcripts
- Official Test Scores (not applicable for applicants with five or more years of experience)
- TOEFL scores, if applicable
- interview

For more information about these portfolio items, please visit our website.

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**Did you know?**

- Penn State credits and degrees earned online are identical to those earned on campus.
- Penn State World Campus has enrolled students from all fifty states and all seven continents.
- Our online courses involve frequent interactions between students and with instructors.
- MHA graduates are in leadership positions in health care organizations across the country.
For More Information

**Contact Us**
pennstateonline@psu.edu
www.worldcampus.psu.edu
800-252-3592 (toll free within the United States)
814-865-5403 (local and international)
814-865-3290 Fax

**Student Services Hours**
(inquiries and registration)
8:00 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Monday–Thursday
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Friday
Closed Saturday and Sunday

**Admissions Counseling Hours**
8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Monday–Thursday
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Friday
Closed Saturday and Sunday

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