University Overview

At Western Kentucky University, distance learners receive more than a degree. Students receive high-quality instruction, personalized support, and the flexibility needed to achieve their goals. The University is nationally recognized for its outstanding student support services and online degree programs. WKU offers more than 1,700 web classes and over 80 online degree and certificate programs, allowing distance learners to find the perfect fit for their needs.

Program Overview

Health Care Administration is an ever-changing field of study that requires well-rounded leaders and innovators to manage the challenges in the health care world. Administrators are responsible for coordinating and organizing the delivery of care while staying in touch with consumers' needs. The Executive Master of Health Administration Program at WKU allows health care professionals the opportunity to strengthen their education with a unique and flexible schedule.

Convenience

What makes the program appealing to so many professionals is its structure, which enables students to gain new expertise without sacrificing their job or lifestyle. Created to meet the needs of busy executives, the program curriculum requires students to visit the classroom only three times per semester, while allowing them to complete the degree in two years. The majority of the coursework will be completed through online distance learning, which makes attaining an MHA more flexible than ever.

A Future in Leadership

The WKU Executive MHA Program is a catalyst to future leadership roles for health professionals. The experience at WKU provides graduates with the skill set needed to compete in the health care job market.

Program Benefits

- 100% online
- Program designed around valuable skillsets to expand career and professional opportunities, including:
  - Management skills
  - Decision-making skills
  - Practical knowledge of the latest industry strategies
  - Leadership and teambuilding skills
- Credentialed faculty with broad research interests
- No out-of-state tuition ever charged
- Access to support services designed to help students succeed in online coursework
Accreditations

- Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA)
- WKU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools

Degree Program Requirements

The Executive Master of Health Administration requires completion of 42 credit hours. The executive option does not require a thesis. Students must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited school.

Core Courses (33 credit hours)

- PH 520: Biostatistics for Public Health
- PH 582: Epidemiology
- PH 583: Public Health Administration
- PH 587: Health Behavior
- HCA 540: Health Care Organization and Management
- HCA 541: Strategic Management & Marketing of Health Services
- HCA 542: Health Care Human Resources Administration
- HCA 543: Health Care Quality and Accountability
- HCA 545: Managerial Finance for Health Services
- HCA 551: Health Care Jurisprudence
- HCA 586: Health Economics & Policy

Electives

Select one of the following classes (3 credit hours)

- HCA 555: Healthcare Preparedness and Leadership
- HCA 556: Ambulatory Care/Rural Health
- HCA 572: Special Topics in Health Services
- PH 584: Principles of Environmental Health
- HCA 544: Healthcare Systems Design and Behavior
- HCA 564: Health Systems Informatics
- HCA 574: Decision Making in Health Care

Executive Option

- Two 3 credit hour courses in a concentration area

Admission Process

To qualify for the Executive MHA Program, applicants must have at least 5 years of work experience in the healthcare field. Healthcare executives who meet this requirement, including physicians, nurses, and other practitioners as well as administrative professionals are encouraged to apply. Interviews shall be conducted on a case-by-case basis in the admission decision of healthcare professionals with less than five years of work experience to gather evidence of
achievements and success in healthcare position(s) held. There is no Graduate Record Examination (GRE) requirement for applicants who meet Executive MHA admission criteria.

Applications must be made in two stages: The first stage includes submission of application materials to the Executive MHA Program. The second stage of the application requires submission of materials for admission into The Graduate School, Western Kentucky University. Only applications that have fulfilled application requirements for both EMHA Program and The Graduate School will be considered complete.

**Part 1: Materials to be submitted to the EMHA Program**

1. Completed and (Electronically) Signed Executive MHA Application and Prerequisite Course Worksheet. The application should be submitted electronically by clicking the "Submit Form" button located on the top right hand corner of the PDF file.
2. Current resume with details of positions held and a personal statement should be sent to mhaexecutiveprogram@wku.edu
3. Two letters of reference from immediate supervisors in the two most recent positions held should be sent to this email: mhaexecutiveprogram@wku.edu

**Part 2: Materials to be submitted to the WKU Graduate School Office**

If determined eligible for EMHA after a review of materials under Part 1, the applicant shall be required to:

1. Apply to the WKU Graduate School. Click on APPLY NOW
2. Submit official copies of transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
3. Pay the Graduate School Application Fee

**Contact Us**

WKU Online
Visit: www.wku.edu/online

Email: learn.online@wku.edu
Phone: (270) 745-5173
Toll-Free: (888) 4WKUWEB / (888) 495-8932

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