

## DEPARTMENT OF

# HEALTH MANAGEMENT & SYSTEMS SCIENCES

## PhD in Public Health Sciences Specialization in Health Management & Policy

The University of Louisville is a state-supported research university located in Louisville, Kentucky. Louisville provides that small town feel with the big city appeal providing a wide assortment of restaurants, music, art, theater, and sports. Louisville is centrally located to some of the region's largest cities such as Cincinnati, Chicago, and Nashville. In addition, our economy is thriving as indicated by the fact that two healthcare companies based in Louisville are listed as Fortune 500 companies.

### Who we are

The Department of Health Management and Systems Sciences, part of the School of Public Health and Information Sciences, was created to improve the health of the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and beyond by developing innovative healthcare leaders and partnering with the community. Our primary aims are to develop, disseminate, and apply evidence-based knowledge about health policymaking, systems design, and quality healthcare delivery.

### Career Opportunities

According to the most recent report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, healthcare occupations and industries are expected to have the fastest employment growth and to add the most jobs between 2016 and 2026. Our PhD in Public Health Sciences Specialization in Health Management and Policy is designed to prepare graduates for careers as researchers and teachers involved in the efforts to protect and promote the health and well-being of communities and populations.

### Format

The PhD in Public Health Sciences Specialization in Health Management and Policy is a 48 credit hour program designed to be completed in two years, plus the dissertation. Health Management and Policy courses are offered on our Health Sciences Center campus in downtown Louisville. Courses are primarily offered Monday through Thursday after 4pm to accommodate students who work full-time.

UNIVERSITY OF  
**LOUISVILLE**<sup>®</sup>

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
& INFORMATION SCIENCES



### Accreditation

The School of Public Health and Information Sciences is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

### Admission

An applicant who has satisfactorily completed a Master of Public Health degree, or another relevant master's degree or a health professional degree is considered for admission to the Health Management and Policy specialization. Applicants holding an advanced degree are evaluated on the basis of appropriateness of previous coursework, training and experience. The graduate work by such applicants is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and the applicant, if admitted, may be required to take additional course work prior to completing the minimum 48 credit hours required for post-master's doctoral work.

### Minimum Requirements

- Resume or curriculum vitae
- A personal statement
- Official transcript for each degree
- Official GRE score
  - If applicant has no terminal degree from accredited US institution, then the GRE is required.
  - Requirement is waived if applicant has terminal degree from U.S. institution or has obtained an Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certificate.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation
- Official TOEFL score if applicant's native language is not English and applicant has no degree from accredited U.S. institution
- Foreign credential evaluation for each degree not from an accredited U.S. institution
- Admission interview by the PhD Committee

▶ ▶ ▶ [Learn more at louisville.edu/sphis](http://louisville.edu/sphis)

## Tuition

Tuition for a full-time student in the PhD in Public Health Sciences Specialization in Health Management and Policy Program is approximately \$13,000 per year for a Kentucky resident and \$26,000 per year for a non-resident of Kentucky. Get more information about cost at [louisville.edu/bursar](http://louisville.edu/bursar).

Required Coursework		
Core Areas (33 credit hours minimum)		
Area	Course Title	Credit Hours
Health Management Foundations (9 credit hours)	<i>Introduction to Health Services Research:</i> This course is designed to introduce students to research that addresses the inherent tradeoffs among cost, quality, and access to care as it pertains to the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity of public health and personal health services.	3
	<i>Health Policy Research:</i> This course focuses on the legal basis of and the processes of development, implementation and analysis of health policy as it is carried out in the context of the United States health care system.	3
	<i>Population Health &amp; Health Disparities:</i> This course examines the social determinants of health within the context of population health, including conceptual models and policy approaches that are designed to lessen the negative impact of health disparities that are attributed to these factors, and to improve the health-related quality of life (HRQL) assessments among community residents and their families, peers and social groups.	3
Theoretical Foundations (3 credit hours)	<i>Organization Theory in HSR:</i> This course is designed to introduce students to research that addresses the inherent tradeoffs among cost, quality, and access to care as it pertains to the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity of public health and personal health services.	3
	<i>Microeconomic Theory:</i> This course is designed to introduce HMSS health policy research doctoral students to the core principles of microeconomic theory, specifically as it relates to health policy-making and health care delivery.	3
Health Management Research Methods (18 credit hours)	<i>Qualitative Field Research Methods:</i> Provides opportunities to design and critique field studies in educational and social settings and to practice techniques used to collect and analyze qualitative data.	3
	<i>Biostatistical Methods I:</i> A mathematically sophisticated presentation of statistical principles and methods. Topics include exploratory data analysis, graphical methods, point and interval estimation, hypothesis testing, and categorical data analysis Matrix algebra is required.	3
	<i>Biostatistical Methods II:</i> This course offers a mathematically sophisticated introduction to simple regression models and analysis of variance.	3
	<i>Health Services Research Methods I:</i> The course will focus on the examination and fitting multiple regression models. A portion of the course will be devoted to the examination of residuals, and issues of dealing with heteroscedasticity and clustering.	3
	<i>Health Services Research Methods II:</i> The course will introduce students to the application of econometric techniques to handling empirical problems in health services and policy research with emphasis of identification and causal inference.	3
	<i>Economic Evaluation in Healthcare:</i> This course will cover principles, models, and practical methods for the economic evaluation of health care services with an emphasis on pharmaceutical care.	3
Seminars (3 credit hours)	<i>HMSS PhD Seminar 1:</i> Doctoral students engage with faculty to critically review significant literature related to major factors impacting the context of public health management in developing an in-depth research paper.	1
	<i>HMSS PhD Seminar 2:</i> Doctoral students engage with faculty to critically review significant literature related to major factors impacting the context of public health management in developing an in-depth research paper.	1
	<i>HMSS PhD Seminar 3:</i> Doctoral students engage with faculty to critically review significant literature related to major factors impacting the context of public health management in developing an in-depth research paper.	1
Emphasis Area Examples		
Organizational Systems	Course Title	Credit Hours
	<i>Introduction to Health Systems:</i> Designed to explore and analyze health systems using ecological principals.	3
	<i>Systems Thinking and Dynamic Modeling in Public Health:</i> The course will give students basic skills for applying the tools of system dynamics for a broad range of public health problems that involve biological, environmental, social and behavioral factors.	3
	<i>Governance and Management of Healthcare Organizations:</i> Students will read and discuss literature that seeks to consider organizations and leadership from a complexity perspective.	3
HSR Methods	Course Title	Credit Hours
	<i>Mixed Effects Models and Longitudinal Data Analysis:</i> The course focuses on theory and application of linear and nonlinear mixed effect models, particularly, the application of mixed models to longitudinal data analyses.	3
	<i>Nonlinear Regression:</i> The course covers advanced statistical methods for non-linear regressions. Linear models, generalized linear models, and least squares estimates will be reviewed. The least squares estimates, algorithm for obtaining the estimates, statistical inferences, and model diagnostic tests for nonlinear regression models will be covered.	3
	<i>Methods of Political Research:</i> A survey of research techniques in the field of government.	3
	<i>Advanced Measurement in Social Work Research:</i> The concepts, principles, and models of measurement include designing, testing and refining measurements and factor analysis, reliability and validity, measurement error, classical measurement theory, item response theory and generalizability theory.	3
Health Policy	Course Title	Credit Hours
	<i>Social Policy:</i> Advanced study on the formation, enactment, and consequences of social policies.	3
	<i>Scope of Political Science:</i> An examination of the substantive areas of inquiry in political science, and the diverse bases for explanation of political phenomena undertaken within the field of political science.	3
	<i>Methods of Political Research:</i> A survey of research techniques in the field of government.	3
	<i>Urban Policy and Administration:</i> An introduction to basic issues in urban policy and administration of urban policy. Emphasis on urban policy processes and administrative systems used to implement them. Includes different political frameworks that describe urban dynamics and includes recent research findings on selected urban policy issues.	3
	<i>Health Policy &amp; Analysis:</i> This course focuses on the legal basis of and the processes of development, implementation and analysis of health policy as it is carried out in the context of the United States health care system. A variety of case studies and examples are used to explore and complement the narrative discussion of health policy processes and participants.	3