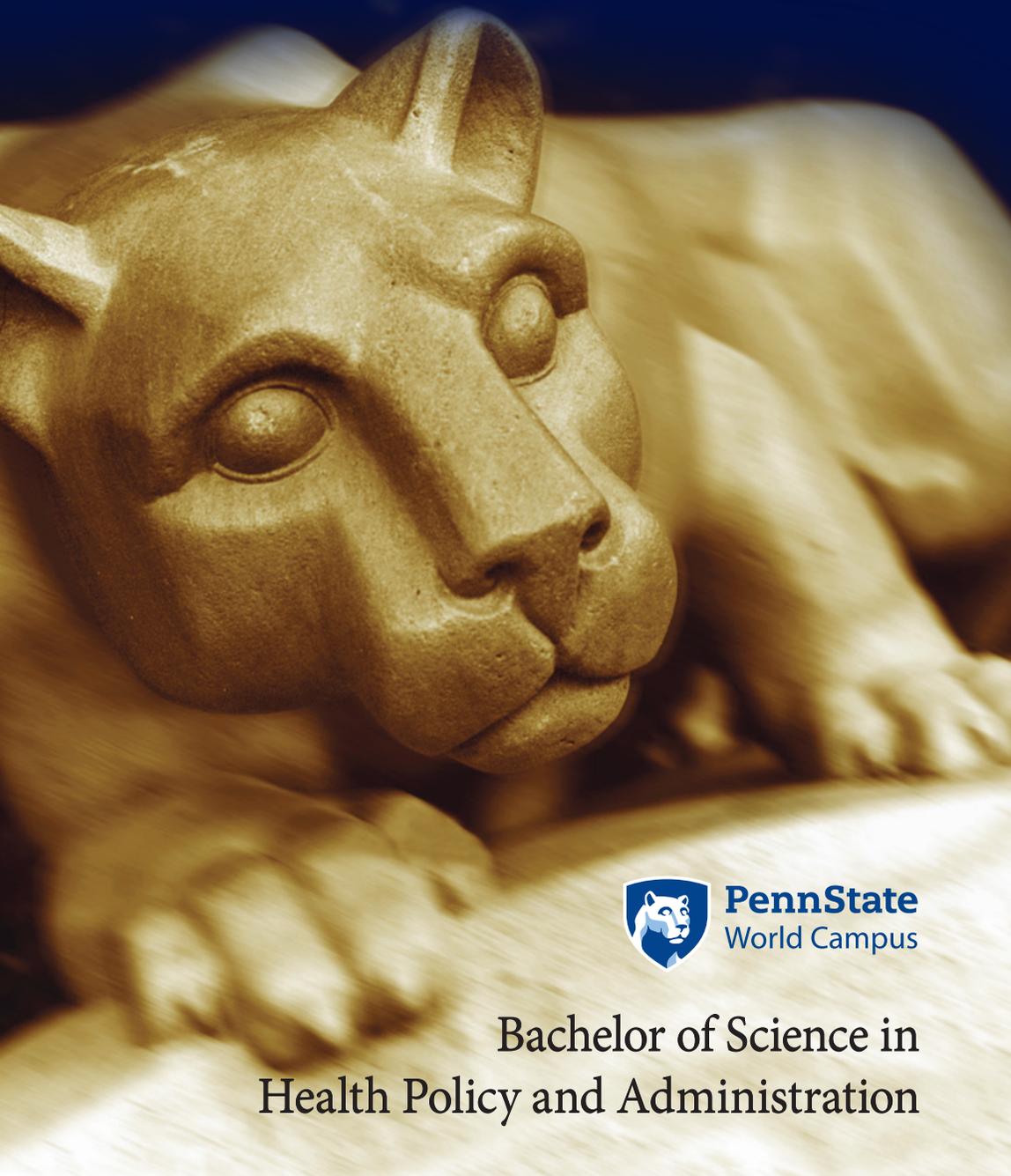


PENN STATE | ONLINE

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PennState
World Campus

Bachelor of Science in
Health Policy and Administration

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“Our vision is to be the leading online undergraduate program in Health Policy and Administration by leveraging the Penn State brand and World Campus delivery model to develop our students into health care leaders who positively impact and improve the industry. One thing that distinguishes our program from others is that the online curriculum mirrors what is taught at University Park and is often instructed by the same faculty. This allows us to offer an online degree consistent with that in residence to those who are geographically removed from campus, and provide students with the convenience and flexibility to continue working while furthering their education.”

—Jennifer L. Deutsch, MSHCPM
Director, Online Bachelor of Science Program in
Health Policy and Administration



Bachelor of Science in Health Policy and Administration

There is an immediate need for health care professionals with administrative and policy skills to provide solutions to industry challenges—rising costs, rapidly changing technology, pressures to deliver improved patient outcomes, and an increase in the number of patients outweighing the number of health care providers.

Penn State's online Bachelor of Science in Health Policy and Administration (HPA) can give you the knowledge and skills you need to meet the rising demands of balancing the competing goals of cost, access, and quality in entry-level management or policy-related health care positions.

The 120-credit bachelor's degree program is offered through a partnership between Penn State's Department of Health Policy and Administration in the College of Health and Human Development, and Penn State World Campus. The department has more than 30 years of experience teaching undergraduates about health care.

And, with our online courses, you can study whenever and wherever it suits you, as you prepare for more challenging—and possibly higher-paying—positions. Our online learning format gives you the flexibility to continue working at your current job while you earn a high-quality degree.

For more information, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/hpa



Health Policy and Administration Course Work

The curriculum for the Bachelor's Degree in Health Policy and Administration is designed to help you understand all aspects of health care. With courses in the liberal arts, business administration, and health sciences, you can learn how to successfully manage challenges in the health care industry. Some of the courses in the major include:

Introduction to Health Services Organization

Examination of the social, political, historic, and scientific factors in the development and organization of health services.

Health Care Payment

An overview of the concepts and issues related to health insurance and payment for health care providers, including such public insurance programs as Medicare and Medicaid.

Financial Decisions in Health Care Organizations

An introduction to financial and economic information such as budgeting and cost accounting used to make decisions in health care organizations.

Health Services Policy Issues

Examination of historic and current health policy issues, the policymaking process and its stakeholders, and a framework in which to analyze policy.

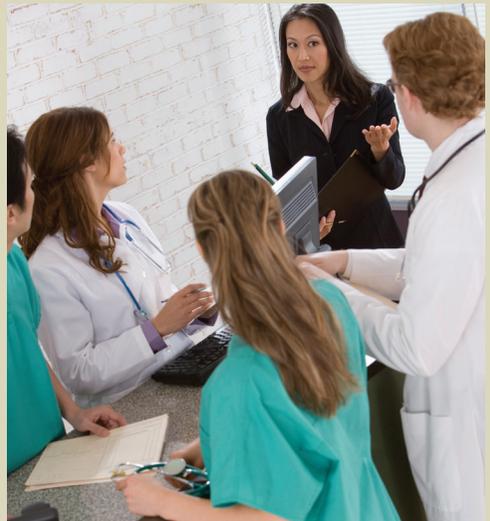
Health Systems Management

Introduction to and analysis of managerial roles and practices in health service organizations.

Strategic Planning and Marketing for Health Services

Introduction to principles and methods of strategic planning and marketing, including behavioral and structural dynamics in organizations.

You will take additional courses in health policy and administration as well as related courses in subject areas such as statistics, economics, and political science. You will work closely with your adviser to tailor your specific course load to your interests and career focus.



Visit worldcampus.psu.edu/hpa-courses to see the full list of courses in the program.

Practical Applications

The course work for the Penn State World Campus degree may be online, but preparing for a career in the health care industry requires practical experience. For this reason, all students in the HPA program are required to complete a 320-hour administrative internship. Designed to enhance your overall learning, the internship will provide you with an opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge you are acquiring in your online course work in a health care setting. The internship experience can uniquely prepare you by introducing you to other professionals in the field and to the work environment in a way that cannot be duplicated in the classroom. It will also help you stand out in the job market with the transferable skills that employers are seeking. To provide added flexibility, you have the option of spreading your required internship hours over one or two semesters.

Historically, HPA students have completed internships in a variety of health care settings, including:

- hospitals, physician practices, long-term care facilities, and mental and behavioral health and other health service providers
- health care consulting firms
- health insurers
- pharmaceutical, medical device manufacturing, and health care supply companies
- local, state, and federal health agencies

Career Opportunities

Graduates from the HPA program can choose from a wide range of career paths, given the versatility of the curriculum. These could include business careers in insurance, medical supply companies, pharmaceutical sales, or health care consulting. You could also work in hospitals, physician practices, home health agencies, nursing facilities and continuing care retirement communities— or in public service, such as local, state, or federal government agencies.

Employment of medical and health services managers is expected to grow much faster than the average for all other occupations. With a projected growth of 14% between 2016 and 2026, employment opportunities in the field are abundant. Medical and health



services managers, also called health care executives or health care administrators, plan, direct, and coordinate medical, health, or long-term care services. They might manage an entire facility or specialize in managing a specific clinical area or department, administrate a program, or manage a medical practice for a group of physicians.

Frequently Asked Questions

► **Why is Penn State the best choice for me?**

Collaboration:

Penn State 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 program connects you with outstanding faculty who can help you integrate knowledge about health administration from many perspectives.

Flexibility and convenience:

Penn State knows that adults need flexible and convenient learning options in order to continue meeting their professional and personal commitments. You can take courses when and where you please, earning your degree at your own pace. Even the internships have been carefully created to allow you to fulfill the requirements in your own community setting.

Reputation:

Penn State is universally regarded as one of the finest educational institutions in the United States. Putting a Penn State degree or certificate on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to current and potential employers that you are a well-educated professional.

► **What types of student support are available?**

As a distance education pioneer, Penn State has developed a nationally

recognized support system for students who are geographically removed from campus. With our amazing team of academic advisers, technical support experts, customer service representatives, and Penn State faculty, we'll help you get where you want to go—successfully—through distance education.

► **Can I obtain financial aid to pay for my courses?**

Penn State realizes that one of the biggest challenges of returning to school is the cost. That's why our advisers have been trained to help you make the most of the financial aid options and opportunities available to you.

► **Is this the real Penn State?**

Yes. The World Campus was launched in 1998 as Penn State's virtual campus administered online. It has since grown into one of the most highly regarded online campuses in the world—extending Penn State's long-standing reputation as a leader in distance education into the twenty-first century. No distinction will be made on your official Penn State diploma that your courses were completed at a distance. The credits you receive are exactly the same as those awarded to on-campus students.

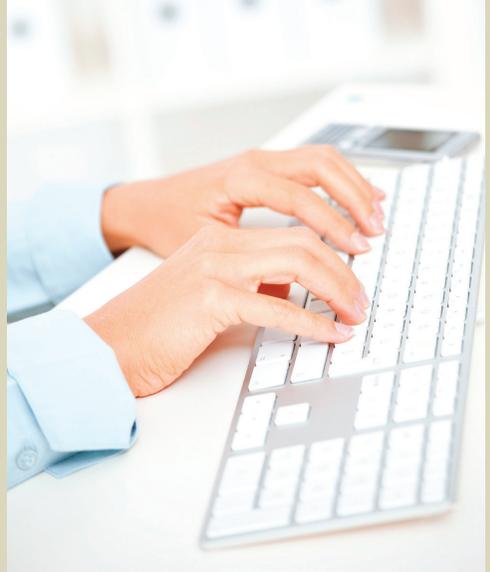
Begin Your Application Today

To start the application process, visit worldcampus.psu.edu/hpa, and click on “Apply Now.” Remember that admissions counselors are available to talk with you about your educational goals, financial aid options, and application deadlines.

To apply for the Bachelor of Science in Health Policy and Administration, you must be a high school graduate, or have completed your GED.

Application Materials

- Complete online application form and fee
- Official high school transcripts or GED transcript
- Official military transcripts (if applicable)
- Official college or university transcripts (if you attended another institution)
- TOEFL or IELTS score (if applicable)



To apply or for more information about these application materials, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/hpa

Did You Know?

- ▶ The HPA Department at Penn State is a full member of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA).
- ▶ Penn State also offers an online Master of Health Administration program.
- ▶ Being a part of the Department of Health Policy and Administration in Penn State's College of Health and Human Development connects you with nearly 5,000 alumni and professional contacts.
- ▶ Penn State credits and degrees earned online are identical to those earned on campus.

For More Information

Contact Us

pennstateonline@psu.edu

worldcampus.psu.edu

800-252-3592 (toll free within the United States)

814-865-5403 (local and international)

814-865-3290 Fax

Admissions Counseling Hours

8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. ET Monday–Thursday

8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET Friday

Closed Saturday and Sunday

Penn State World Campus

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PennState
World Campus

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