

Bachelor of Science in Health Policy and Administration

Healthcare is the largest industry in the United States, and the second largest employer. A rapidly growing industry, healthcare represents one of today's most dynamic fields, offering a wide range of opportunities.

The Health Policy and Administration (HPA) program in Penn State Harrisburg's School of Public Affairs, and in collaboration with [Penn State Mont Alto](#), has been designed to prepare students for mid-management and policy positions, or graduate study in the field of healthcare. Students in this major will develop the skills and knowledge needed to understand the complex societal problems of providing access to quality healthcare at a reasonable cost. HPA students study a multidisciplinary curriculum that prepares them to work as health services managers or health analysts.



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PennState
Harrisburg

School of Public Affairs



**Bachelor of Science in
Health Policy and
Administration**

Curriculum

For the B.S. degree in Health Policy and Administration, a minimum of 120 credits is required.

Students may select courses in the Supporting Courses and Related Areas category to fulfill requirements for a minor, to develop a specialization, or to complete courses required for admission to medical, dental, law, or other graduate schools.

Per Senate Policy 83.80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. H P A requires students to complete 24 credits for the major through courses taken at University Park. Courses taken at other Penn State campuses may not be counted toward this 24 credit minimum. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for this major.

Visit for complete details.

Courses Overview

The undergraduate program includes opportunities for students to discover the financial, policy, and administrative foundations of the healthcare industry. In Health Services Policy Issues (HPA 301), students will discuss major healthcare policies and learn frameworks to analyze the policies themselves. In Health Finance (HPA 447) students experience the concepts of decision-making, including evaluation of capital investment decisions, sources of financing, and managerial accounting concepts. In Strategic Planning and Marketing (HPA 455), the history, principles, techniques, and methodologies of health services planning and marketing are studied and students learn how to plan for new or changed health services, programs, or facilities. The program culminates in a Field Experience course (HPA 395) where students put their learning into practice.

This page is not a part of the official [Penn State University Bulletin](#).

Undergraduate Admissions Requirements

Minimum high school course requirements for admission to baccalaureate (four-year) degree programs are listed below. Keep in mind that specific programs may have additional requirements or recommendations.

English

Four units, including one unit each in composition and literature, are required.

Social Studies/Art/Humanities

Three units in any combination of social studies, arts, and humanities are required.

World Language

Two units in a single world language other than English are required. However, a student may be admitted with fewer than two units in a world language other than English, but must correct this deficiency by the time s/he earns 60 credits or graduates from Penn State, whichever comes first. This deficiency may be corrected by passing one three- or four-credit college level world language course or by demonstrating proficiency equivalent to two units of high school world language study.

Either a third unit in the same language or an additional unit in a second world language other than English is recommended.

Science

Three units of science are required. Preparation in chemistry and physics is recommended but not required for our Science and Engineering/Engineering Technology programs.

Math

Three units of mathematics are required (four are recommended), selected from any combination of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Some programs have additional mathematics requirements. Our Business, Engineering/Engineering Technology, and Science programs require one-half unit of trigonometry or higher level math within the required three units.

Penn State requires proof of graduation or a GED for admission to four-year degree programs.

*In most high school curricula, one unit = one year.

Visit Undergraduate Admissions: Admissions Requirements for more information (<http://goo.gl/eVGAMB>)