Breaking the boundaries of conventional thinking about healthcare

We witness amazing advances in health care all the time. However, despite these transformative improvements, health care still costs too much, and quality and access are not assured. The issues facing health care are so complex and broad they require a robust multidisciplinary approach and a willingness to explore new models to fully deal with them. The University of Chicago has recognized this and has created a unique health policy and administration program that draws on students and faculty from business, public policy, law, medicine and social services.

The Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy (GPHAP), housed in the School of Social Service Administration, has assembled a rich and diverse set of intellectual resources from across the university for students who are looking to make an impact in the health care field.

The next generation of health care leaders will require not only a diverse skill set and an entrepreneurial spirit, but deep interdisciplinary training in health care systems—the kind of world-renowned training offered at the University of Chicago—in order to tackle the health care policy, program and management issues of today.

GPHAP is unique among health programs in the United States in recognizing this, and draws students out of silos to connect and blend their expertise to solve the complex problems of our time. GPHAP enables students to earn either a Certificate in Health Administration and Policy or a Certificate in Health Administration and Policy with a Concentration in Global Health, while earning a degree in one of the participating graduate schools on campus: The Booth School of Business, the Harris School of Public Policy, the Law School, the Pritzker School of Medicine, and the School of Social Service Administration.

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What I took away from GPHAP was more than the classes and the content – there was also the opportunity to network and connect with others with similar interests.

— Alumna, SSA

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**45**

Approximate number of students that are admitted annually (about 2/3 in the US track and 1/3 in the global health track)

**20**

Approximate number of fellowships/internships awarded each year

**15**

Approximate number of research assistantships awarded per year

**40**

Approximate number of faculty from across the University of Chicago working with GPHAP
A Long History of Innovative Thinking

The University of Chicago founded the first program of Hospital Administration in the Business School in 1934 and has since trained more than 1,000 leaders in the field. What makes the program so valuable today is its ability to sit between five professional schools, with an intentionally interdisciplinary focus, to train professionals in creating new integrated models for today’s complex health and social problems.

Making an Impact

Graduates of the program are leading a wide range of health care organizations: health care consulting firms, start-ups, federal and local government agencies, hospitals and integrated health systems, community-based service agencies, advocacy groups, and pharmaceutical and health information technology companies. Our program is training students to be leaders in a rapidly transforming health care industry which demands interdisciplinary thinkers who know how to develop and work effectively in diverse teams to create integrated, value-based delivery models which operate across fields - medicine, social services, community, private markets, government programs and regulatory policy. Graduates - and hiring managers - consistently tell us that it is the multidisciplinary training that gives them the background necessary to operate successfully, and more importantly, make an impact in the complex health care environment.

I now truly believe that the best, most innovative, and impactful solutions have to come from interdisciplinary teams that build on the strengths of the different healthcare fields.

— Alumnus, Booth/Pritzker
The Curriculum

The Graduate Program in Health Administration and Policy (GPHAP) allows students to choose a course of study that closely matches their interests and career plans. However, being an interdisciplinary program, we encourage students to broaden their horizons and experience multiple perspectives. Doing so gives our students the analytical skills and training that can be applied to real problems in the health care field.

To fulfill GPHAP’s requirements, students complete four courses, two required GPHAP courses and two health electives. The required courses are structured to emphasize interdisciplinary learning. In addition, GPHAP students complete a Practicum and co-curriculars, which are health care lectures on a wide range of topics.

GPHAP Awards and Funding Opportunities

The University of Chicago offers a rich and stimulating environment for students interested in health care as a career. GPHAP, in particular, enables students to join a vibrant community at the University that is committed to various aspects of health care. Funded research assistantships and fellowships are available for students interested in working with faculty researchers and clinicians at the University of Chicago Medicine, and organizations in the community. These include:

• Anderson Research Assistantships
• Erikson Health Care Fellowships
• Quern Funding for Independent Projects
• Brown Fellowship Awards

It was the highlight of my graduate school experience!
— Alumnus, Booth
Who Can Apply?

We are looking to identify and recruit well-qualified candidates who are interested in pursuing careers in health care or health-related fields, and also participating in a well-balanced, interdisciplinary GPHAP student body. GPHAP candidates must:

- Be accepted at Booth, Harris, the Law School, Pritzker or SSA. Law School students participate during the second and third years of their degree program. Pritzker students participate in the Global Health program during all four years of medical school.

- Have an interest in gaining interdisciplinary skills, working on diverse teams, and making an impact in the health care field.

- Have the ability to meet academic, co-curricular, and field experience requirements.

Please see gphap.uchicago.edu for more details.

GPHAP Students Are Enrolled at the Following Schools

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GPHAP was a wonderful program that continues to inform my work.
— Alumna, Law

GPHAP made me more aware of a different mode of thinking. It gave me a broader perspective.
— Alumnus, Harris