

HEALTH SERVICES POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Department Website (<http://www.sph.sc.edu/hspm/>)

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The Department of Health Services Policy and Management promotes individual and community health through improvements in the organization and management of public health and health care delivery. The department offers the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.), the Master of Health Administration (M.H.A.), and three dual degrees: the Master of Social Work/Master of Public Health (M.S.W./M.P.H.), the Master of Public Health/Master of Public Administration (M.P.H./M.P.A.) and the Juris Doctor/Master of Health Administration (J.D./M.H.A.) (see Graduate Dual Degree Programs (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/graduate/dual-degree-programs/>)). At the doctoral level, the department offers the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.).

The Master's programs prepare students to assume leadership positions in public, nonprofit, and for-profit organizations in public health, health services, health policy, and related fields. The M.P.H. emphasizes preparation for a career in the public health sector. The program includes full public health foundation courses, taught in an interdisciplinary format, in the five core areas of biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health sciences, administration, and health promotion, education and behavior. The M.H.A. emphasizes preparation for a career in management in the private health care sector. The program has a substantial emphasis on accounting and finance. A professional M.H.A. is also available for practicing professionals with courses held on weekends. All programs may be taken part-time. The M.P.H. may be taken by distance education via synchronous and/or asynchronous broadcast. A Certificate of Graduate Study in Gerontology may be combined with any degree program (see bulletin section for the College of Social Work).

The Ph.D. program prepare students to make a substantive impact in health services policy and management through teaching, research and policy leadership in university settings and in the public and private health care sector. For experienced health care managers and physicians, the Ph.D. program prepares them for senior policy and management positions in public and private health-focused organizations.