

# HEALTH SCIENCE M.S.

Degree: Master of Science  
<https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/healthsci/gradhealthsci/>

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The Master of Science in Health Science is designed to meet needs within the state of Maryland for graduate-trained professionals to work in educational, medical care, community and worksite settings. The program is intended both for people with classroom or work experience in the health sciences or related fields as well as those seeking to expand their expertise to include the field of health science. It is particularly well suited to people who have been in the work force and now wish to receive additional education to enhance their performance as well as their competitiveness on the job.

Students may select one concentration from the following: Community Health, School Health Education or Administration. Students may also elect to take two concentrations. To do so, students must complete the requirements of both concentrations.

A graduate of the Community Health concentration may pursue a career as a health education specialist in a variety of public and private sector agencies. Students holding current credentials in pharmacy, nursing, dentistry, dietetics and other professions may wish to combine their skills from prior training and redirect their careers toward community health related to their specific prior training. A graduate of the School Health Education concentration can consider such employment opportunities as classroom health teacher, supervisor of a health science program within a school system, health education media specialist, program evaluation specialist or a position within continuing education and school personnel departments. A graduate of the Administration concentration is prepared for positions in a variety of settings (voluntary, proprietary, governmental, school, community, etc.) that require sound background in health and administration.

The distinction of the M.S. in Health Science program is its emphasis in pragmatic applications derived from theory. The program is based on the core approach of providing a sound academic base in principles of education and training, research and behavioral sciences. While students register for graduate work within the Department of Health Science, support cores from this or other TU departments can be selected to contribute toward their individual professional goals. In addition, with permission of the program director, students may transfer up to 9 graduate units earned in other academic settings to their master's program of study. Students may elect to pursue a graduate project or thesis, if either activity is consistent with their professional goals.

The M.S. in Health Science is designed to accommodate the needs of students whose personal and professional lives restrict their ability to enroll in a full-time, traditional graduate program. Students are overwhelmingly part time, participating in courses that are primarily offered only during weekday evenings throughout the year. Individuals desiring full-time graduate status may be able to construct programs responsive to their needs. However, the department cannot promise that full-time course work will be possible within any given term or academic year.

Please note that only one degree in Health Science can be awarded; students who complete more than one concentration in Health Science will earn only one degree.

## Admission Requirements

Admission to the master's program in Health Science may be secured in two ways:

1. The master's program requires a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university\*\* in a health science field (e.g., nursing, health education, psychology, etc.) or substantial upper-division course work in those fields, or experience in those same areas (as determined by the program director). In addition, applicants must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 to be admitted to the master's program; conditional admission may be granted to students whose GPA is at least 2.75. All GPA calculations for admission are based upon the last 60 units of undergraduate and post-baccalaureate study.
2. Also eligible for conditional admission are individuals without the stipulated educational or experiential foundation. To qualify for this category of conditional admission, candidates must provide the program director with a personal statement (no more than 500 words) that establishes why they seek admission to the master's program and how they see themselves using the degree; have at least three years documented full-time work experience; and maintain a GPA of at least 2.75. All GPA calculations for admission are based upon the last 60 units of undergraduate and post-baccalaureate study.
3. All applicants must have taken a 3-credit class in statistics or equivalent with an earned grade of a "B" or better.

The program admits students for the fall and spring terms only. Priority will be given to students whose applications and transcripts have been received by March 1 for fall admission and November 1 for spring admission. Students who miss the priority deadline may contact the program director via email to inquire if space is still available for the forthcoming term.

**Non-immigrant international students:** See additional admission information in Graduate Admissions (<https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/international.html>)

\*\*See **Exceptions to Policy** in Graduate Admissions (<https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/policies.html>)

## Degree Requirements

The master's program in Health Science requires successful completion of 36 units. For students in School Health Education, 18 units are identified for the student by the Department of Health Science, with the remainder derived from elective offerings. In Community Health, 18 units are stipulated by the department. For those enrolled in the Administration concentration, 15 units constitute mandatory enrollment. Mandatory enrollment for students who elect two concentrations will derive from the two concentrations comprising their degree program. Only students in good academic standing within the master's program in Health Science are eligible to request a change in concentration.

## School Health Education Concentration

Code	Title	Units
<b>Health Science Required Core</b>		
HLTH 601	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SCHOOL HEALTH	3
HLTH 615	QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE PRINCIPLES	3

HLTH 625	RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTH	3
HLTH 639	INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH BEHAVIOR AND HEALTH PROMOTION	3
HLTH 643	HEALTH EDUCATION: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND SUPERVISION	3
HLTH 785	GRADUATE SEMINAR IN HEALTH	3

**Electives**

Select 18 units from the following: <sup>1</sup> 18

HLTH 501	TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS AND SEX	
HLTH 505	DRUGS IN OUR CULTURE	
HLTH 551	INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
HLTH 601	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SCHOOL HEALTH	
HLTH 617	HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	
HLTH 631	PROGRAM PLANNING IN HEALTH EDUCATION	
HLTH 637	SKILL DEVELOPMENT: LEADERSHIP IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING	
HLTH 645	HEALTH CARE POLICY	
HLTH 649	PROGRAM EVALUATION	
HLTH/IDHP 651	PLANNING AND MARKETING HEALTH IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY	
HLTH 880	GRADUATE PROJECT IN HEALTH SCIENCE	
HLTH 897	HEALTH SCIENCE THESIS	

Other HLTH/HCMN/GERO elective, or those approved by the program director

Total Units 36

<sup>1</sup> Number of units and specific selections dependent on student's concentration; all electives should be approved by the student's adviser.

**Community Health Concentration**

Code	Title	Units
<b>Health Science Required Core</b>		
HLTH 615	QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE PRINCIPLES	3
HLTH 625	RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTH	3
HLTH 631	PROGRAM PLANNING IN HEALTH EDUCATION	3
HLTH 639	INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH BEHAVIOR AND HEALTH PROMOTION	3
HLTH 649	PROGRAM EVALUATION	3
HLTH 785	GRADUATE SEMINAR IN HEALTH	3

**Electives**

Select 18 units from the following: <sup>1</sup> 18

HLTH 501	TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS AND SEX	
HLTH 505	DRUGS IN OUR CULTURE	
HLTH 551	INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
HLTH 601	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SCHOOL HEALTH	
HLTH 617	HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	
HLTH 631	PROGRAM PLANNING IN HEALTH EDUCATION	
HLTH 637	SKILL DEVELOPMENT: LEADERSHIP IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING	
HLTH 645	HEALTH CARE POLICY	
HLTH 649	PROGRAM EVALUATION	
HLTH/IDHP 651	PLANNING AND MARKETING HEALTH IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY	

HLTH 880	GRADUATE PROJECT IN HEALTH SCIENCE	
HLTH 897	HEALTH SCIENCE THESIS	
Other HLTH/HCMN/GERO elective, or those approved by the program director		

Total Units 36

<sup>1</sup> Number of units and specific selections dependent on student's concentration; all electives should be approved by the student's adviser.

**Administration Concentration**

Code	Title	Units
<b>Health Science Required Core</b>		
HLTH 615	QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE PRINCIPLES	3
HLTH 617	HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	3
HLTH 625	RESEARCH METHODS IN HEALTH	3
HLTH 633	HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS	3
HLTH 785	GRADUATE SEMINAR IN HEALTH	3

**Electives**

Select 21 units from the following: <sup>1</sup> 21

HLTH 501	TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS AND SEX	
HLTH 505	DRUGS IN OUR CULTURE	
HLTH 551	INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
HLTH 601	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SCHOOL HEALTH	
HLTH 617	HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	
HLTH 631	PROGRAM PLANNING IN HEALTH EDUCATION	
HLTH 637	SKILL DEVELOPMENT: LEADERSHIP IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING	
HLTH 645	HEALTH CARE POLICY	
HLTH 649	PROGRAM EVALUATION	
HLTH/IDHP 651	PLANNING AND MARKETING HEALTH IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY	
HLTH 880	GRADUATE PROJECT IN HEALTH SCIENCE	
HLTH 897	HEALTH SCIENCE THESIS	

Other HLTH/HCMN/GERO elective, or those approved by the program director

Total Units 36

<sup>1</sup> Number of units and specific selections dependent on student's concentration; all electives should be approved by the student's adviser.

1. Assimilate facts, theories and principles basic to health science and to students concentration that establish students information literacy and technological competency
2. Apply the scientific method to problem solving and decision making
3. Speak and write effectively
4. Develop a sense of responsibility and confidence for ones decisions/ actions as a health science professional
5. Engage in creative thinking with regard to health science
6. Engage in analytic and inductive thinking with regard to health science