

# Behavioral Health, DBH

## - INACTIVE

LSBEVHEDBH

ASU is not currently accepting applications for this program. Applicants interested in the Doctor of Behavioral Health program should apply directly to the [clinical](#) or [management](#) concentrations.

### Program description

#### **Degree awarded: DBH Behavioral Health**

The DBH is an innovative and interdisciplinary applied program designed to prepare masters degree-level professionals to become experts in the emerging field of integrated behavioral care.

Integrated care is the holistic treatment of both medical and behavioral conditions. When undetected and untreated, whether in primary care or other medical settings, the results are poor clinical outcomes and increased medical costs related to overuse of medical services. A key recommendation in health care reform is improved integration of medical and behavioral care in order to both improve health outcomes as well as decrease health care costs.

The doctoral curriculum is explicitly focused on graduating experts who can both speak the language of evidence-based clinical interventions and to perform cost savings and return on investment analyses that are in high demand in new models of accountable care delivery. Traditional doctoral training does not prepare clinicians or managers with the interdisciplinary knowledge required to meet these new demands in the health care marketplace. This program reflects a paradigm shift to a curriculum based on business entrepreneurship skills, such as business plans, marketing and returns on investment specific to health care; evidence-based behavioral interventions for primary care that are efficient and contribute to cost savings by reducing unnecessary medical care services and costs; health care systems policies, economics and finance that respond to emerging opportunities in health care reform; and medical literacy, to understand common medical conditions seen in primary care and consult effectively with the medical team.

The curriculum is unique in that it incorporates internship experiences in primary care or similar medical settings, and it integrates clinical and professional affiliated faculty as well as faculty associates who are experts and are directly employed in health care environments in the area that they are teaching. It is a

flexible, online degree program that enables students to select a program of study ranging from part-time to full-time attendance, and it is available through ASU Online as a distance-learning program. The program offers either a clinical track for licensed clinicians or a management track for health care managers and leaders, and it replaces the dissertation with a culminating research project that combines an applied research study with a business plan.

Internship experiences are arranged with local site liaisons, and students meet in small groups with a doctoral consultant who leads case reviews and studies. Rural health and experiences with disadvantaged and multicultural populations are encouraged.

Graduates of the program will lead a societal transformation by increasing access to behavioral care, integrating behavioral providers into medical teams, improving patient outcomes and satisfaction, and decreasing cost of care.

## At a glance

- **College/School:** [College of Health Solutions](#)
- **Location:** [Online](#)

## Degree requirements

84 credit hours including the required applied project course (IBC 793)

### **Required Core (18 credit hours)**

HCD 501 Biostatistics and Data Management (3)

IBC 586 Behavioral Health Professional Writing Style (3)

IBC 611 Population-Based Behavioral Health Management (3)

IBC 614 Quality and Performance Measurement, Improvement and Incentives in Health Care (3)

IBC 718 Healthcare Systems: Organization, Delivery and Economics (3)

IBC 720 Behavioral Health Entrepreneurship (3)

### **Electives (57 credit hours)**

### **Other Requirement (3 credit hours)**

IBC 684 Internship (3)

### **Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**

IBC 793 Applied Project (6)

## **Additional Curriculum Information**

In order to use the 30 credits from a previously awarded master's degree, applicants must possess a bachelor's degree and master's degree from a regionally accredited postsecondary institution in the U.S. or an equivalent degree from an recognized international postsecondary institution.

## **Admission requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Health Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a master's degree in any field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the applicable master's degree.

All applicants must submit an online graduate admission application. Applicants should see specific concentrations for the items that must be submitted.

## **Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English must meet university and degree program English proficiency requirements regardless of their current residency.

## **Tuition information**

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

## **Attend online**

### **ASU Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program's ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

## **Contact information**

[College of Health Solutions](#) | HLTHN 401AA  
[CHSGrad@asu.edu](mailto:CHSGrad@asu.edu) | 602-496-3300

