Behavioral Health (Management), DBH

Propel your career into the future as an innovative integrated care manager or entrepreneur and thrive in the new culture of value-based care. Learn to develop management strategies that address the needs of populations, with evidence-based practices and team-based care focused on quality, technological advances and cost effectiveness.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: DBH Behavioral Health (Management)

The DBH is a global, interdisciplinary degree program that offers an innovative curriculum, a hands-on internship placement in health care settings, and an applied research project for domestic and international students.

Integrated health care is the team-based, coordinated approach to the treatment of medical and behavioral health issues, lifestyle issues and behaviors that affect health, all in one setting. The management concentration of the Doctor of Behavioral Health program provides students the knowledge and skills needed for management of integrated health care programs. Students learn about the impact of social determinants of health and health disparities and how to leverage resources to contain costs while ensuring the provision of quality health care.

The program enables both domestic and international students to tailor learned innovative management practices to local health system geography, culture and policy. The curriculum focuses on integrated health management in primary care, especially in the patient-centered medical home and accountable care organization models, and focuses on three areas: integrated behavioral health program design, quality and performance measurement, and business entrepreneurship. The curriculum includes emerging health technologies such as integrated health measures in electronic health records, mobile health applications, and wearable technology to facilitate and assist with tracking health behavior change, big data and analytics.
Graduates of the management concentration are positioned to achieve the Quadruple Aim in health care: improved patient experience of care, population health management, cost savings and improved health care team experience. They are expected to apply entrepreneurial concepts and skills to promote integrated health programs with key stakeholders, such as medical directors and chief executive officers.

The Doctor of Behavioral Health program of study does not provide a pathway to clinical or other licensure.

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 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)

**Concentration (18 credit hours)**

- HCD 602 Health Informatics for Health Care Professionals (3)
- IBC 601 Models of Integrated Primary Care (3)
- IBC 626 Behavioral Health Management (3)
- IBC 630 Financial Management of Health Care (3)
- IBC 660 Healthcare Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues (3)
- IBC 740 Integrated Behavioral Interventions, Cost Savings, Medical Cost Offset and Return on Investment (3)

**Electives or Research (39 credit hours)**

**Other Requirement (3 credit hours)**

- IBC 684 Internship (3)

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**

- IBC 793 Applied Project (6)
Additional Curriculum Information

Students entering the doctoral program with a master's degree in a related discipline may count up to 30 credits from the master's degree toward the total credit hours, with program approval.

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 (on a 4.00 scale) in the applicable master's degree.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. supplemental application
4. one professional reference
5. updated curriculum vitae or resume
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of their current residency.

Applicants with master's degrees in business administration, public health, nursing, counseling, behavioral health, health care administration and social work, among others, are encouraged to apply. Applicants must be master's degree-level professionals who are either currently employed or aspire to be employed in a clinical capacity within integrated health care.

Within the university application, a supplemental application must be submitted for admission consideration. The supplemental application includes acknowledgements of program policies and a series of essay questions (responses restricted to 500 words or less).

All applicants are required to submit contact information for at least one professional reference. Examples of appropriate references include a current employer or supervisor who can assess the applicant's clinical or professional performance, or other professional person (not relatives) such as a licensed behavioral health clinician, medical or other health care provider, or faculty from the applicant's master's degree program who is well acquainted with their professional practice or academic achievement. The reference
will be contacted via email to provide responses to a series of short answer questions to complete the recommendation.

**Tuition Information**

When it comes to paying for college, 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.

**Application Deadlines**

- **Fall**
- **Spring**
- **Summer**

**Career Opportunities**

Graduates of the management concentration in the Doctor of Behavioral Health program have the organizational understanding and management skills required to move into leadership and management positions across health care settings. They are well prepared to develop and manage programs related to integrated behavioral health care and choose careers such as integrated care practice managers and leadership positions in integrated care delivery systems, health plans and managed care organizations as well as positions as integrated care industry consultants.

This program does not prepare non-clinicians for clinical practice.

Potential job titles include:

- behavioral health staff coordinator
- CEO or director of an integrated care practice or organization
- director of physician relations
- health and wellness manager
- integrated care manager
- member services manager
- operational care manager or team leader
- practice managers and facilitators
• quality improvement manager
• wellness program administrator

Contact Information

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