

University Senate

Proposed: December 2, 2011

Adopted: December 2, 2011

All in favor

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MASTER'S DEGREE
IN HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (MHA)
(Mailman School of Public Health)**

WHEREAS, in the complex and rapidly changing health care industry, health care professionals are needed who can blend business management skills with an understanding of public health goals, and

WHEREAS, the master's in health administration will provide management training for careers focusing on health care delivery, financing, and policy, and

WHEREAS, many top-tier public health schools are now offering the MHA degree as an alternative to the master's in public health, in response to student demand for a credential that balances a strong foundation in public health with robust management training, and

WHEREAS, the MHA may be viewed as a "differentiated" management degree for the health care delivery industry (with accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation Healthcare Management Education), which has been endorsed by employers in the health care industry (as per the American College of Healthcare Executives), and

WHEREAS, the Council on Education for Public Health (the accreditation agency for public health education) has recently revised its criteria to accommodate curricula for the MHA degree, thus enabling the Mailman School of Public Health to more easily meet criteria for accreditation by both CEPH and CAHME and enhancing the school's ability to attract the best students,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate approve the MHA program as proposed by the Mailman School of Public Health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the resolution be forwarded to the President and the Trustees of Columbia University for their approval.

Proponent
Committee on Education

Program description

Health care management is a field serving one of the largest and most essential segments of the United States economy. There is a significant demand for effective management in the multiple aspects of the health care industry including hospitals, nursing homes, pharmaceutical and device manufacturers, consulting, emergency services management and government. Health care management focuses on the organization, financing, marketing, and management of health care institutions and the delivery of personal health services in either the public or private sector. The MHA degree curriculum provides an overview of the political, legal and economic forces that shape the health care system, in-depth training in health care financing, evaluation, and marketing, and a hands-on immersion into the principles and the practices of effective management. The faculty of academics and practitioners works with students to develop competencies in communication, collaboration, analytical thinking, and technical skills that are required by the realities of the workplace. An integral part of the co-curricular experience is the professional skills development and the practica that better position graduates for successful careers in this rapidly changing field. The MHA degree program builds on the rich tradition and success of the School's MPH degree with a focus in health care management. The proposed MHA degree provide a better academic platform to address the pressing needs of a more specialized health care arena. The Council on Education for Public Health, the accrediting body of schools of public health, recently changed their criteria in recognition of this need. The Mailman School is well positioned to provide leadership to the field.

The program's mission is derived from, supportive of, and contributes to the mission of the Department of Health Policy and Management, where the new program will be housed. The management programs prepare students for entry, mid-level and executive positions (depending on program) in health care organizations. This is accomplished by offering an educational program that combines traditional didactic education in component disciplines of management, built on a public health core, with experiential learning. Each fall the Department expects to enroll 35 full-time students, 25 part-time students, and 30 Executive MPH students. Thus each fall there will be 70 full-timers, 75 part-timers, and 60 executive students.

Term: Fall 1

Course Number & Title	Credits	New	Prerequisite(s)
P6530 Issues and Approaches in HIPM	3		
P6103 Biostatistics Core	3		
P6503 Introduction to Health Economics	3		
P8557-001 Managerial and Organizational Behavior	3		

P6529 Health Care Financial Management I		3			
Term credit total:		15			
Term: Spring 2					
Course Number & Title	Credits	New	Prerequisite(s)		
P6529 Health Care Financial Management II	3		P6530		
P8557 Strategic Management	3		P6530, P8557		
P8529 Analytic Methods for Health Services Management	3				
P8514 Governance, Law and Ethics	1.5				
P8515 Marketing	1.5				
P6000 Health and Society: Intro to Public Health	3				
Term credit total:		15			
Term: Fall 2					
Course Number & Title	Credits	New	Prerequisite(s)		
Practicum Seminar and Professional Development	1.5				
Two of the following three courses: A) P8569 Studies in Hospital Management B) P8517 Management Challenges in the Evolving Health Care and Insurance System C) P8559 Comparative Strategic Analysis	6				
P8527 Human Resource Management	1.5				

P8536 Information Technology / P8510 Public Health Quality and System Improvement	1.5		
Elective(s)	4.5		
Term credit total:	15		

Program Totals:	Credits: 45
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