

SOU HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



The Healthcare Administration Program at Southern Oregon University is predicated upon strong connections with community partners working within the healthcare sector. Beyond their initial involvement in developing the program goals and curriculum, community partners seeking to inform and support the program can remain connected in one of three ways:

Community Advisory Council: managers from community healthcare organizations help steward the program forward by participating in bi-annual meetings with program leadership to review program performance and needs.

Practicum Placements: students in the healthcare administration program develop and demonstrate competence in designated program outcomes while working in “real world” settings. All candidates must complete at least 90 hours within a healthcare organization, observing and completing tasks associated with specified program outcomes (see next page). Practicum sites must designate a practicum supervisor responsible for assigning relevant tasks and evaluating candidate’s performance.

Sponsored Data Projects: information management and data analysis are among the program outcomes. Community partners with needs in these areas may request support from the HCA program in one of two ways:

Capstone projects: individual students must complete a culminating project or research paper before graduating. While many students will design and initiate their own projects, partner organizations may propose potential projects which serve organizational needs and provide students the opportunity to demonstrate competence in designated program outcomes. The HCA program coordinator will serve as a “matchmaker” between potential projects and interested students.

Class data projects: numerous courses throughout the HCA program of study engage students in collecting, analyzing and presenting data. Organizations with ongoing data needs may propose projects to program faculty to consider adopting or adapting as class assignments.

Agency Request Form

Please email the following information to Craig Switzler, HCA program coordinator, at switzlerc@sou.edu

- Name of requesting organization
- Name, email, and phone number of contact person
- Brief description of proposed activity
- Advance training required in order for students to begin field placement at this particular site (e.g. HIPAA, CPR, FERPA, criminal background check, etc.)
- Training provided by the organization

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Communication

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate effective methods for delivering and obtaining information
- Communicate and interpret health information accurately
- Translate information between various stakeholders and professional communities
- Apply emotional intelligence to workplace issues

Information Management

Students will be able to:

- Interpret and use data for effective decision making
- Utilize information technology applications common across health professions
- Use analytics to develop a written case or presentation to inform organizational decisions
- Synthesize data for patterns, trends and focal areas for further interpretation and subsequent action

Business Processes

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of basic business principles such as financial and human resource management, marketing, and strategic planning
- Apply business principles, including systems thinking, to the healthcare environment

Basic Understanding of the Health Care Sector

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate proficiency in the use of common medical terminology
- Understand the history and evolution of the health care industry
- Apply concepts in trauma-informed care
- Articulate and apply principles of evidence-based practice
- Identify different components of the healthcare sector and explain how they interrelate

Cultural Competence

Students will be able to:

- Identify and respect that definitions of health vary across cultures
- Demonstrate appreciation and respect for diverse cultures, values and norms
- Recognize the need to work with the whole person, not just the physical ailment
- Identify and articulate how workplace cultures vary

Organizational Dynamics & Change Management

Students will be able to:

- Apply data to support continual improvement processes
- Articulate and apply motivation theories to manage teams and individuals within an organization
- Employ behavioral interviewing processes
- Apply principles of adult learning theory to enhance staff support and development

Ethics and Professional Standards

Students will be able to:

- Align personal and organizational conduct with ethical and professional standards
- Demonstrate professional responsibility to patient and community through a service orientation
- Analyze and present data within legal and regulatory guidelines while upholding the strictest standards of confidentiality
- Demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning

Basic Understanding of Human Health

Students will be able to:

- Identify the connection between mental and physical health
- Identify social determinants of health
- Articulate the significance of health promotion and global health
- Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of biomedical and clinical sciences
- Articulate an understanding of holistic health