

## **INTRODUCTION**

To serve the growing needs of the healthcare industry with respect to management and administration, Jefferson College of Health Professions offers a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree with the option of three majors: Health Services Management (BS-HSM), Health Professions Management (BS-HPM) and Health Services Management Information Systems (BS-HSMIS).

The BS-HSM, BS-HPM and the BS-HSMIS are intended to prepare individuals for entry-level management positions in a wide variety of healthcare organizations -- hospitals, nursing homes, insurance companies, health maintenance organizations, clinics, ambulatory care centers, welfare departments, rehabilitation centers and public health agencies. The term "health care manager" refers to individuals in various positions within these organizations and agencies that plan, organize, coordinate and supervise the delivery of health services. Health care managers include generalists -- individuals who administer, manage or help to manage entire facilities or systems -- and specialists who manage clinical departments or services specific solely to the healthcare industry. Whether generalist or specialist, health care managers deal with finances, budgets, personnel, computer systems, laws and legal requirements, program planning and evaluation, and organizational behavior, including politics and conflict.

Into the foreseeable future, the increasing demand for entry-level healthcare managers will be fueled by two social and demographic forces: (1) the substantial increase in the nation's elderly population and (2) the constant change and experimentation in the nation's healthcare payment system. Although today most healthcare managers are employed in hospitals, the U.S. Department of Labor reports that, in the future, these two trends suggest that the fastest growth will be in home health care agencies, long-term care facilities, practitioners' offices and clinics.