



Jefferson College of Population Health

# Doctor of Health Science (DHSc) in Population Health

An online, practice-based doctoral degree designed for working professionals who are driven to lead and innovate in population health.

Jefferson's Doctor of Health Science (DHSc) in Population Health is designed for working professionals who are determined to transform the healthcare system. This cohort-based program is small, interactive and focused on creating a community of practice among the participants as they develop their knowledge and skills. Graduates will leave the program prepared to improve their organizations and solve real population health challenges.

## **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

Our graduates will be prepared to:

- Assume leadership roles in professional, clinical, academic, or community organizations
- Apply their knowledge of concepts to lead, inspire and facilitate the work of interprofessional teams
- Assess and evaluate issues of strategic importance and offer recommendations based on relevant data
- Collaborate with key stakeholders to develop and test population health interventions that are informed by relevant models, valid and reliable data and stakeholder needs
- Assess the impact and effectiveness of strategic population health improvement plans

## **PROGRAM AUDIENCES**

The program is for health professionals with diverse experience including, but not limited to:

- Clinical professionals working in healthcare settings, healthcare plans or management companies, academic institutions, community organizations and public/government entities
- Health administrators
- Program specialists working in health promotion, disease prevention and chronic condition management
- Health information technology and data professionals working in provider and payer systems
- Individuals working in healthcare-related professional organizations and trade associations
- Professionals who work in organizations involved in delivery, administration or financing of health care

## **PROGRAM FEATURES**

- Emphasis on developing the competencies for advanced population health practice
- Experiential learning in an interprofessional and interactive environment
- Career-focused content that includes networking, mentoring, coaching and leadership development
- Dissertation built on a critical business priority, to provide organizational and professional return on investment

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

This cohort-based program combines the best of online content delivery, while also providing students with intensive mentoring, coaching and soft skills practice in face-to-face sessions with some of the best and brightest minds from across the country.

Students begin in January and will complete the program in December of the 3rd year.

Online courses are offered asynchronously using best practices and interactive learning.

Program requirements include two in-person residencies (spring and fall) in each year. They are offered over the course of 4 days (bridging a weekend) on Jefferson's Center City campus in Philadelphia.

The in-person residency programs allow students to receive personalized attention and mentoring from faculty — an ideal opportunity to develop dissertation proposals, receive career coaching and build their professional network of contacts. There are also sessions devoted to career planning, board governance, and opportunities to interact with industry experts.

## CURRICULUM

The DHSc in Population Health requires a completion of 51 credits, including the dissertation, as outlined below.

### Core Population Health Courses

- Medicare & Medicaid
- Comparative Health Systems
- Population Health Management Strategies

### Core Methods Courses

- Fundamentals of Practice-Based Statistics
- Advanced Practice-Based Statistical Applications
- Observational Research Methods
- Systematic Reviews and Analysis

### Integrative Courses

- Implementation Science I
- Implementation Science II
- Strategic Implementation and Evaluation
- In-person Residencies (Spring and Fall) – 6 credit hours



“Our program was designed to help busy executives develop the skills and experience to lead with confidence. The combination of skill development, mentoring and leadership coaching prepares our graduates for professional and personal success.”



**Alexandria (Alexis) Skoufalos, EdD, MS**  
*Associate Dean for Strategic Development  
Associate Professor and Program Director,  
DHSc in Population Health*

## ADMISSIONS CONSIDERATIONS

We review applications using a holistic perspective that carefully considers all available information. Ultimately, we look for applicants with a passion for the work, and the ability to successfully complete the program:

- An earned master's degree or post-baccalaureate professional degree;
- GPA of approximately 3.3 or higher in graduate coursework;
- Completion of a graduate statistics course with grade of "B" or better (course can be completed at JCPH prior to full admission into the DHSc program);
- Application essay;
- Resume/CV that demonstrates a trajectory potential for success in a doctoral program; and
- Recommendation letters attesting to the applicant's ability to be successful in the program.

## Eligibility

- An earned master's degree or other professional degree (eg., PharmD, MBA, MHA, MSW, JD, MD, MSN) is required.
- Certificate program graduates are not eligible for admission.
- Students may transfer a maximum of 12 applicable graduate credits into the program from other accredited institutions.

## QUESTIONS?

**Email:** [JCPH.Admissions@Jefferson.edu](mailto:JCPH.Admissions@Jefferson.edu)

**Call:** 1-888-71-APPLY (27759)

**Visit:** [Jefferson.edu/PopHealthDHSc](http://Jefferson.edu/PopHealthDHSc)

## START YOUR APPLICATION

- Start your application online at [Jefferson.edu/PopHealthDHSc](http://Jefferson.edu/PopHealthDHSc)
- Begin classes in January