

# HEALTH POLICY

Graduate Certificate and Master's Degree

U.S. HEALTH POLICY AND GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY TRACKS AVAILABLE

A photograph of four professionals in business attire. A man in a grey suit and tie is gesturing with his hands while speaking. A woman in a dark blue suit and glasses is holding a white paper and looking towards him. Behind them are two other individuals, a man and a woman, also dressed professionally, all looking in the same direction.

*Earn your master's  
degree 100% online  
in two years without  
interrupting your career.*

# Health Policy (HP)

explores the advancement and implementation of health law, regulations, or voluntary practices that influence systems development, organizational change, and individual behavior to promote improvements in health.

## Program Features

- 100% online with no in-person or synchronous learning requirements
- Accelerated 7-week semester format tailored to working professionals
- Courses developed and taught by expert practitioner faculty
- Complete a graduate certificate in one year or a master's degree in two years by taking just one course at a time

Our health policy program is tailored to working professionals, preparing graduates to assume key roles in policy development and advocacy. The program takes a deeply applied approach to health policy, emphasizing the knowledge and skills needed on the job.

## Program Options

The health policy program has two degree options and the master's degree has two tracks. All coursework is 100% online and uses an accelerated semester format specifically designed for working professionals. This enables students to focus on one set of skills at a time, but still graduate at the same pace as a traditional graduate degree program.

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

The Graduate Certificate focuses on the foundations of policy-driven solutions to population health improvement. This option contains five online courses and can be completed in one year.

### MASTER'S DEGREE

The Master of Science (MS) degree builds upon the foundational concepts presented in the Graduate Certificate and prepares graduates to be health policy leaders who possess advanced analytic and advocacy skills for problem identification and actionable policy solutions and implementation.

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***Effective health policy analysts and advocates are needed in every key stakeholder group involved in the organization, financing, delivery, and oversight of health services.***

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## **Master's Degree Tracks**

Our program offers options for students to focus on health policy principles in the U.S. or in different environments around the world.

### **U.S. HEALTH POLICY TRACK**

Students planning to practice in the United States will learn the unique landscape of health policy decision-making in the U.S. at the local, regional, state, and federal levels, and be able to develop, analyze, and advocate for comprehensive policy solutions that can address population health problems.

### **GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY TRACK**

Students wishing to practice outside of the United States will learn how health and healthcare services are organized, financed, and delivered in other countries and will develop advanced analytical skills needed to drive policy-oriented solutions to population health problems around the world.

## **Program Audiences**

This program is ideally suited to prepare professionals to work in the range of environments where health policy is a priority:

- Community-based health advocacy and service organizations
- Public health officials and governmental employees working at local, state, or federal levels
- Professionals working in organizations involved in the delivery, administration, or financing of healthcare
- Human resource professionals in large employer organizations
- Foundations, non-profits and other funders seeking to impact health policy at the local and national levels
- Professional associations and other organizations representing members working to improve population health

## **Program Outcomes**

Graduates of our health policy program are able to:

### **GRADUATE CERTIFICATE**

- Identify the inter-relationship among key stakeholders in U.S. health and health care, advocacy organizations, and the political system, with a focus on policy-making bodies
- Examine the influence of social, economic, behavioral and political factors on health outcomes
- Explore the general theoretical principles of economics and their application in the healthcare sector
- Understand the legal, legislative and regulatory process that influence health policy development, implementation, and financing
- Understand the role of information systems and data analysis in the policy-making process

### **MASTER'S DEGREE (ABOVE PLUS)**

- Design and evaluate health policy briefs, statements, analyses and research
- Apply data driven analytical skills to identify problems, model solutions and predict outcomes
- Develop system-wide approaches that consider market forces and multiple stakeholder positions in the development of actionable policy solutions
- Develop competencies in multi-sector collaboration
- Explore approaches to developing and financing policies to address the social determinants of health
- Select and integrate information systems and technology to support decision-making and workflow within and across settings and sectors
- Learn effective approaches to communication and dissemination of information and data
- Apply advanced management and leadership skills to develop policies that manage costs of health care and that improve access, quality and safety



## Jill Castner, MSHP '19

Medical Science Liaison-Vaccines  
Sanofi Pasteur

**I've spent 22 years advocating for immunization, the last ten in an immunization policy role. Jefferson's MS in Health Policy program had me exploring the "why" behind the current healthcare landscape, and learning how to change it. The knowledge I gained pays dividends in every facet of my life – from understanding healthcare for my family to understanding the nuances of health policy on a national level.**

## CURRICULUM

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE: 15 CREDITS

- U.S. Healthcare Organization and Delivery<sup>1</sup>
- Essentials of Population Health
- Health Law and Regulatory Issues
- Legislative, Executive, and Regulatory Processes
- Health Policy Analysis and Development

### MASTER OF SCIENCE: 33 CREDITS

The Master's curriculum includes all the courses from the certificate, plus a capstone seminar and project associated with the chosen track.

#### U.S. HEALTH POLICY TRACK

- Policy Approaches to Addressing Social Determinants of Health
- Medicare and Medicaid
- Practice-Based Health Statistics
- Effective Communication and Dissemination of Data
- General Elective
- Capstone Seminar and Project

#### GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY TRACK

- Refugee and Migrant Health
- Delivering Health Services in Resource-Limited Countries
- Practice-Based Health Statistics
- Effective Communication and Dissemination of Data
- Global Health Elective<sup>2</sup>
- Capstone Seminar and Project

<sup>1</sup> Or Comparative Health Systems if in the Global Health Policy Track | <sup>2</sup> Can also be a pre-approved study abroad program

The capstone project is designed by the student and is tailored to his/her career trajectory. The elective can be a supervised learning experience in a policy-oriented environment or study abroad. Go to [Jefferson.edu/HealthPolicy](http://Jefferson.edu/HealthPolicy) for updated program requirements, course descriptions, and available electives.

**Earn your degree from one of the largest and most innovative academic health centers in the country.**

## Thomas Jefferson University

*We Improve Lives.*

At Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University), we *improve lives* by redefining humanly possible and providing students with exceptional value in 21st century professional education. We are dedicated to educating our students—through interprofessional and transdisciplinary, experiential learning designed for new and emerging fields—and preparing them with the skills they need to succeed and lead now and in the future of work. We do this through integrated, innovative and forward-thinking programs across our colleges and schools in architecture, business, design, engineering, fashion & textiles, health, science and social science.

College of Population Health students have the extraordinary opportunity to expand their understanding of health care and population health through Jefferson Health, our clinical arm of Thomas Jefferson University. Our academic health center spans 14 hospitals (seven are Magnet-designated for nursing excellence), touches the lives of nearly four million patients annually, includes the NCI-designated Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, and is recognized nationally by *U.S. News & World Report* for its clinical excellence. The Jefferson Health system provides students with numerous collaborative opportunities to gain a real-world understanding of health, health care and the impact of population health management and policy.



Thomas Jefferson  
University Hospital

## Jefferson College of Population Health

*Connecting Health and Healthcare™*

We are the first college of population health established in the United States with an unwavering focus on improving population health in the United States and around the world. We train leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to transform the delivery of health services by working within and across critical stakeholder groups, including:

- healthcare providers and delivery systems
- health insurance companies and third-party payers
- drug and device manufacturers
- government and other regulators and accreditors
- technology companies
- management consulting firms
- community organizations

To accomplish this, we offer graduate programs in all key areas of population health improvement: applied health economics and outcomes research, health policy and administration, healthcare quality and safety, operational excellence, population health sciences, population health management, and public health. We also publish seminal texts and academic journals that define, sustain and propel our field. We are heavily engaged with leading firms in population health through consulting, R&D, and thought leadership and we host the largest industry-focused annual conference solely focused on population health improvement.

For more information about the College,  
visit [Jefferson.edu/PopulationHealth](http://Jefferson.edu/PopulationHealth)

## **ADMISSIONS CONSIDERATIONS:**

We review applications using a holistic perspective that carefully considers all available information without imposing specific minimums on any individual requirement. In general, we look for:

- A prior GPA of approximately 3.0 or higher in undergraduate or graduate coursework;
- Competitive standardized test scores near or above the 50th percentile (a waiver is available);
- An articulate application essay;
- A resume/CV that demonstrates a trajectory consistent with, or shows promise for, success in the applicant's chosen degree program; and
- Recommendation letters attesting to the applicant's ability to be successful in the program.

Ultimately, we look for applicants who have a passion for the work and the ability to successfully complete the program. Please visit our website or contact us for more information.

## **START YOUR APPLICATION:**

- Start your application online anytime at [Jefferson.edu/HealthPolicy](http://Jefferson.edu/HealthPolicy)
- No application fee for master's degree programs
- Begin classes in January or September (some availability in May)

## **QUESTIONS?**

Email us at [JCPH.Admissions@Jefferson.edu](mailto:JCPH.Admissions@Jefferson.edu) or call us toll-free at **1-888-71-APPLY** (27759)