

# Health Services Research



**H**ealth services research is the intersection of many disciplines, including biostatistics, operations research or management science, medical informatics, epidemiology, program evaluations, statistical quality control, and market research.

The health services research program at Texas State University-San Marcos prepares students to be vital contributors to clinical research, quality improvement, or policy development in the health sciences. The program offers students experience in the practical application of computer-based qualitative, quantitative and analytical methods of problem solving and decision-making in both clinical and administrative settings. This master's program is available in both full-time and part-time schedules, and all courses are offered in the evenings.

Graduates work in public health, biotechnology or other careers related to health services administration where their quantitative and computer skills are strong assets. The program is designed for students with diverse academic preparations, including both health and non-health professionals.

TEXAS  STATE  
UNIVERSITY<sup>®</sup>  
SAN MARCOS

*The rising STAR of Texas*

*A member of The Texas State University System*



### Course Work

The 42- to 45-semester-hour program yields a master of science with a major in health services research (HSR). The program varies depending on student career goals and courses of study but usually includes a core, electives, a cognate in health services, and a thesis or field experience. The student's career objective influences the choice of electives and should be discussed with the School of Health Administration (SOHA) graduate advisor.

### Admission Policy

Course prerequisites for HSR students include statistics. This prerequisite may be accepted from other universities and must be taken prior to entering the graduate program.

Applicants must meet the Graduate College's minimum GPA requirement of 2.75 for the last 60 hours of letter-grade course work leading to the bachelor's degree as well as for any graduate or professional work. They must also earn a minimum score of 2000 on an admission index calculated by multiplying GPA for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work by 400 then adding it to the total GRE score.

To apply, each applicant must submit the following to the Graduate College at Texas State:

- an official Texas State Graduate College application form
- one official transcript from each college or university attended, including community colleges
- official results of the verbal/quantitative sections of the GRE

After receiving applicants' files from the Graduate College, the program advisor will request that applicants submit the following materials to the SOHA graduate advisor:

- three letters of reference (at least two of those from academia)
- a written statement of purpose that indicates ability and interest
- a current résumé

Once these materials are received, the SOHA graduate advisor will schedule an interview to confirm the applicant's ability and interest in not only pursuing, but completing, the program.

Visit [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu) for access to an online application and additional details. Applications are due June 1 for the fall semester and October 1 for the spring semester. The Graduate College will continue to process applications received after these deadlines, but such applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, with no guarantees of admission.

### Financial Assistance

For information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College Web site at [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu) and click on *Financing Your Graduate Education*.

### Contact

Graduate Advisor  
School of Health Administration  
Texas State University-San Marcos  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666-4616  
Phone: 512.245.3494  
Fax: 512.245.8712  
E-mail: [sohagradadvisor@txstate.edu](mailto:sohagradadvisor@txstate.edu)



*I chose Texas State because of the unique nature of the HSR program. It allows for studies outside the public health arena and provides the opportunity for a well-rounded education in health services. The program is great because it combines statistical analysis course work with other courses that delve into health laws, the evolving health care system and the challenges of rising costs.*

*As a disability specialist for the Social Security Administration, I can readily apply lessons learned in the classroom to my position. With ever-changing federal policy and daily updates on program rules, the HSR program has provided me with great insight into the nature of public health, health administration and the analysis of health data.*



—Elizabeth Richter  
health services research alumna