

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH IN PHARMACY, MS

The master's degree is a non-admitting program, and students interested in the HSRP program should consult the HSRP PhD program (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/pharmacy-school-wide/health-services-research-pharmacy-phd/>) for program admissions and requirements. The MS-HSRP degree may still be earned on the way to a PhD degree dependent on student and advisor needs.

ADMISSIONS

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This master's degree program is offered for work leading to the PhD. Students may not apply directly to the Master of Science in Health Services Research in Pharmacy and should instead see the admissions information for the PhD (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/pharmacy-school-wide/health-services-research-pharmacy-phd/>).

FUNDING

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GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

[The Bursar's Office provides information about tuition and fees associated with being a graduate student.](#) [Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid.](#) [Further funding information is available from the Graduate School.](#) Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

HSRP faculty believe in supporting graduate students in their quest for knowledge and research expertise; maintaining a range of graduate student funding mechanisms is a high priority. Graduate students are typically provided with tuition remission and stipend (salary) support as either teaching assistants, research assistants, or fellows. Such appointments include health insurance; see the Graduate Coordinator for details. In addition, incoming students are provided with new laptop computers for their learning and research endeavors and access to state-of-the-art statistical software. Travel grants facilitate graduate student participation at national meetings. HSRP graduate students who are licensed pharmacists are typically encouraged to continue practicing part-time (e.g., on weekends), to maintain ties to the profession. See the School's webpage for the latest on HSRP graduate funding (<https://pharmacy.wisc.edu/programs/sas/tuition-financial-support/>).

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirementstext>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiestext>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail

Minimum Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	16 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	16 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/).
Other Grade Requirements	Candidates may be dropped from the program if they receive more than 7 credits of grades at the BC level or lower. This applies to formal courses, seminars, and research credits.

Assessments and Examinations Candidates will design and produce an empirical project and present this project to the student's faculty advisor and two other SAS faculty members. For specific details, please see <https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/hsrp-handbook/masters-degree-requirements> (<https://students.pharmacy.wisc.edu/hsrp-handbook/masters-degree-requirements/>)

Language Requirements Only candidates with an emphasis in the history of pharmacy are required to attain competence in foreign language. Contact the School's Graduate Programs Coordinator for more information.

REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
Core Seminar Courses		
Select two of the following:		4
S&A PHM 701	Grant Writing for Health Services Research	
S&A PHM 702	Mixed Methods for Health Sciences: Purpose, Design and Approach	
S&A PHM 703	Community Engagement in Health Services Research	
S&A PHM 704	Dissemination, Implementation and Sustainment of Change in Health Services Research	
Core Principles		
Select one of the following:		3
S&A PHM 711	Research Methods for Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Research	
S&A PHM 715	Social Behavioral Theories in Pharmacy, Drug Use, and Health Behavior	
Methods of Research and Analysis		
Select from approved lists:		9
Additional Research methods (3 credits minimum)		
Analytic techniques (6 credits minimum)		
Specialty and Advanced Coursework		
Select in consultation with major professor ¹		11
Research (credit varies)		5
S&A PHM 990	Research	
Total Credits		32

¹ A minimum of 6 credits must be taken outside of the School of Pharmacy for the Specialty/Advanced requirement. The Specialty/Advanced credits may include no more than 2 additional credits of the Core Seminar Courses: S&A PHM 701 Grant Writing for Health Services Research, S&A PHM 702 Mixed Methods for Health Sciences: Purpose, Design and Approach, S&A PHM 703 Community Engagement in Health Services Research, S&A PHM 704 Dissemination, Implementation and Sustainment of Change in Health Services Research and/or a 3-credit HSRP Core Principles course S&A PHM 711 Research Methods for Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Research or S&A PHM 715 Social Behavioral Theories in Pharmacy, Drug Use, and Health Behavior. The Specialty/Advanced credits cannot include more than 5 total S&A PHM course credits.

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) serve as the official document of record for Graduate School academic and administrative policies and procedures and are updated continuously. Note some policies redirect to entries in the official UW-Madison Policy Library (<https://policy.wisc.edu/>). Programs may set more stringent policies than the Graduate School. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions

With program approval, students may transfer up to 14 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions (the student must have graduate student status on the other institution's transcript at the time the courses were taken). The program's minimum graduate residence credit requirement can be satisfied only with courses taken as a Graduate student at UW-Madison. Further, the graduate-level credits taken as a Big Ten Academic Alliance Traveling Scholar may count as credits taken in residence at UW-Madison. The credits from this work will appear on a UW-Madison transcript as transfer credits into the Graduate career. Coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

A request to apply transfer credits should be presented to program faculty prior to one's first graduate semester. The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), another Social and Administrative Sciences in Pharmacy (SAS) faculty, and the advisor will review and approve the proposed transfer credits for compatibility with the Health Services Research in Pharmacy (HSRP) curriculum and approval.

Undergraduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions or UW-Madison

Refer to the Graduate School: Transfer Credits for Prior Coursework (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/>) policy.

A request to apply transfer credits should be presented to program faculty prior to one's first graduate semester. The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), another Social and Administrative Sciences in Pharmacy (SAS) faculty, and the advisor will review and approve the proposed transfer credits for compatibility with the Health Services Research in Pharmacy (HSRP) curriculum and approval.

Credits Earned as a Professional Student at UW-Madison (Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary careers)

Refer to the Graduate School: Transfer Credits for Prior Coursework (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/>) policy.

A request to apply transfer credits should be presented to program faculty prior to one's first graduate semester. The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), another Social and Administrative Sciences in Pharmacy (SAS) faculty, and the advisor will review and approve the proposed transfer credits for compatibility with the Health Services Research in Pharmacy (HSRP) curriculum and approval.

Credits Earned as a University Special student at UW–Madison

Refer to the Graduate School: Transfer Credits for Prior Coursework (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/>) policy.

A request to apply transfer credits should be presented to program faculty prior to one's first graduate semester. The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), another Social and Administrative Sciences in Pharmacy (SAS) faculty, and the advisor will review and approve the proposed transfer credits for compatibility with the Health Services Research in Pharmacy (HSRP) curriculum and approval.

PROBATION

Refer to the Graduate School: Probation (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/>) policy.

1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Students are required to maintain a program faculty member as an MS advisor through the duration of their studies. Students should select a permanent major professor before the end of the second semester enrolled in the program. Program graduate faculty monitor the progress of MS students annually.

Requirements for the composition of the Health Services Research in Pharmacy MS thesis committee are presented at *Guide* requirements tab.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

TIME LIMITS

The Health Services Research in Pharmacy MS is designed to be completed in two years.

Refer to the Graduate School: Time Limits (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/>) policy.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (<https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/>)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure>)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/>)
 - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (<https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/>)
- Employee Assistance (<http://www.eao.wisc.edu/>) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)

- Employee Disability Resource Office (<https://employeeabilities.wisc.edu/>) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/>) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office Student Assistance and Support (OSAS) (<https://osas.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (<https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/>) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (<http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/>) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/>) (for concerns about discrimination)

Grievance Policy for Graduate Programs in the School of Pharmacy

Any student in a School of Pharmacy graduate program who feels that they have been treated unfairly by a faculty member, staff member, postdoc, or student has the right to have a complaint heard about the treatment and to receive a prompt hearing of the grievance, following these grievance procedures. Any student who discusses, inquires about, or participates in the grievance procedure may do so openly and shall not be subject to intimidation, discipline, or retaliation because of such activity. The person whom the complaint is directed against must be an employee of the School of Pharmacy. Any student or potential student may use these procedures unless the complaint is covered by other campus rules or contracts.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to employment-related issues for Graduate Assistants in TA, PA, and/or RA appointments. Graduate Assistants will utilize the Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (<https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/>) (GAPP) grievance process to resolve employment-related issues.

Requirements for Programs

The School of Pharmacy requires that each director of graduate studies (DGS) serve as a grievance advisor for the school. The program must notify students of the grievance advisors, including posting the grievance advisor's names in the program handbook. The student will be able to select the grievance advisor of the student's choice and does not need to use the grievance advisor from the student's program.

A grievance advisor may be approached for possible grievances of all types. They will spearhead the grievance response process described below for issues specific to the graduate program, including but not limited to academic standing, progress to degree, professional activities, appropriate advising, and a program's community standards. They will ensure students are advised on reporting procedures for other types of possible grievances and are supported throughout the reporting process. Resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/current-students/#reporting-incidents>) on identifying and reporting other issues have been compiled by the Graduate School.

Procedures

1. The student is advised to initiate a written record containing dates, times, persons, and description of activities, and to update this record while completing the procedures described below.
2. If the student is comfortable doing so, efforts should be made to resolve complaints informally between individuals before pursuing a formal grievance. If students would like to seek guidance at this informal step, the student can contact the Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the DGS for the student's program, or the UW Ombuds Office.
3. Should a satisfactory resolution not be achieved AND the complaint does not involve an academic program, the procedure outlined in Step 6 below should be followed. Should a satisfactory resolution not be achieved in step 2, the student should contact an SOP grievance advisor of one's choice to discuss the complaint. The grievance advisor should keep a record of contacts with regard to possible grievances. The first attempt is to help the student informally address the complaint prior to pursuing a formal grievance and should occur within 10 days of notifying the grievance advisor. The student is also encouraged to talk with their faculty advisor regarding concerns or difficulties.
4. If the issue is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, the student may submit a formal grievance to the grievance advisor in writing, within 60 calendar days from the date the grievant first became aware of, or should have become aware of with the exercise of reasonable diligence, the cause of the grievance. To the fullest extent possible, a grievance shall contain a clear and concise statement of the grievance and indicate the issue(s) involved including individuals, the relief sought, the date(s) the incident or violation took place, and any specific policy involved.
5. On receipt of a written grievance, the following steps will occur. The final step must be completed within 30 working days from the date the formal written grievance was received. The program must store documentation of the grievance for seven years. Significant grievances that set a precedent may be stored indefinitely.
 - a. The grievance advisor will convene a SOP faculty committee with at least three members to facilitate the grievance following Steps b, c, and d. The grievance advisor assumes the role of coordinator. Any faculty member involved in the grievance or who feels that they cannot be impartial may not participate in the committee. Committee composition will include at least one member from outside the student's home program.
 - b. The faculty committee, through the grievance advisor, will obtain a written response from the person or persons toward whom the grievance is directed. The grievance advisor will inform this person that their response will be shared with the student filing the grievance.
 - c. The grievance advisor will share the response with the student filing the grievance.
 - d. The faculty committee will make a decision regarding the grievance. The committee's review shall be fair, impartial, and timely. The grievance advisor will report on the action taken by the committee in writing to both the student and the person toward whom the grievance was directed.
6. If either party (the student or the person or persons toward whom the grievance is directed) is unsatisfied with the decision of the program's faculty committee, the party may file a written appeal to the SOP Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education within 10 working days from the date of notification of the program's faculty committee. The following steps will occur:
 - a. The grievant will be notified in writing, within five business days of the written appeal, acknowledging receipt of the formal appeal and establishing a timeline for the review to be completed.
 - b. The associate dean or their designee may request additional materials and/or arrange meetings with the grievant and/or others. If meetings occur, the associate dean or their designee will meet with both the grievant and the person or persons toward whom the grievance is directed.
 - c. The associate dean or their designee will make a final decision within 20 working days of receipt of the committee's recommendation.
 - d. The SOP Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education must store documentation of the grievance for seven years. Significant grievances that set a precedent may be stored indefinitely.
7. The student may file an appeal of the School of Pharmacy decision with the Graduate School. See the Grievances and Appeals section of the Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/grievances-and-appeals/>).

OTHER

Program faculty believe in supporting graduate students and a range of funding mechanisms are possible; graduate students are often provided with tuition remission and funding support either as teaching assistants, project assistants or fellows. In addition, new students are provided with new laptop computers for their learning and research endeavors, access to state-of-the-art statistical software and support, and travel grants to present their research at national meetings.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

HSRP faculty conduct comprehensive annual reviews of each HSRP graduate student, providing confidential feedback to each student's own self-assessment. This combination provides a great launch for a meaningful goal setting. HSRP faculty are committed to coaching graduate students to grow as instructors and to mentoring them in this dimension, complementing the wealth of campus resources for teaching and learning. The School of Pharmacy's **Sonderegger Research Center** regularly hosts "Brown Bag" lunches where HSRP graduate students can interact informally with SRC staff. There is increased emphasis to connect current students to PhD alumni (e.g. via Skype "informational interviews") for career discussions and mentoring. The School of Pharmacy student body, along with those from other UW-Madison health professional schools, participates in a number of annual "Lunch and Learn" events throughout the academic year to build community and talk about other challenges regarding diversity, equity, inclusivity, and climate in higher education.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Demonstrate an advanced critical knowledge and in-depth application of economic, policy, and/or social behavioral analyses to the study of the interrelationships between pharmacy, pharmaceutical services, health care systems, and patients.
2. Formulate research questions, design experiments to test hypotheses, apply appropriate quantitative and qualitative methods, and evaluate evidence relevant to questions in health economics, health care systems, healthcare organization and management, outcomes research, health care policy, and pharmacy services.
3. Communicate, both orally and in writing, scientific knowledge, research findings, and/or core principles effectively to a range of audiences.