About the course

The M.Sc. in Health Services Management is a two year part-time programme that provides health professionals with the knowledge and competence to effectively plan and manage health services. It aims to provide an understanding of management principles and their application to the complex environment of the health services.

In addition to contributions from leading academics across the Schools of Business and Medicine within the College, the programme also includes contributions from experienced policymakers and senior managers in healthcare, thus providing a practical focus for learning and ensuring that students are kept up-to-date with the latest developments in the health system.

The programme has an interdisciplinary focus. We deliberately select participants from diverse health system backgrounds and provide a small class setting where peer learning, class discussion and debate form an essential part of the learning experience.

Course Objectives

On completion of this course graduates should expect to:

- Understand and apply principles and concepts of management to the organisation and delivery of healthcare services.
- Appreciate the advantages and disadvantages of different approaches to collaboration across professional and organisational boundaries in health and social care and be able to select an approach most suited to the change process within their particular service.
- Have an in-depth understanding of the drivers behind health reforms and be able to implement strategies for effective management within a broader climate of systemic change.
- Appreciate the steps involved in formulating and implementing health policies at national and organisational levels.
- Have an understanding of the nuances between health services delivery in different national contexts and be able to apply learning across international health systems.
- Become both users and producers of quality health services research that enables evidence-informed decision making.
- Become innovative in addressing issues that arise in service delivery organisation.

Who should apply

The programme will benefit professionals with responsibility for the planning, organisation and/or delivery of health and social care services.

Applications will be considered from experienced individuals those who hold a good honours degree in a professional discipline or hold other qualifications deemed appropriate by the course committee. Short-listed applicants may be interviewed.
Course Structure

Students will be required to complete the modules as listed below and write a dissertation:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taught Modules - Year 1</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understanding the Healthcare Environment</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Management</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Economics</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information &amp; Operations Management</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Managing People in Healthcare Organisations</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Methods I (Year 1 &amp; 2)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Taught Modules - Year 2</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Health Policy</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comparative Healthcare</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic Management</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Methods II and Healthcare Ethics</td>
<td>10</td>
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Dissertation                                    30

To graduate with an M.Sc. in Health Services Management students must complete 90 ECTS: 60 ECTS for the taught components and 30 ECTS for the dissertation.

Information on the above modules is available at:
http://www.medicine.tcd.ie/health_policy_management/postgraduate/msc/

*ECTS European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

To apply for this course:
http://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/az/course.php?id=DPTMD-HSMA-1P09

Course Location

The course will be mainly based in the Centre for Health Policy and Management, Foster Place, in the heart of Dublin city.

Research Project

Since its inception in 1998, students on the M.Sc. in Health Services Management have consistently produced academically rigorous and practice relevant research across public, private, and voluntary sectors in health and social care. Many students undertake practice-based action research that provides valuable learning opportunities for their workplace colleagues.

The research from this programme has resulted in policy and practice changes and pioneering service innovations as well as contributing to the evidence base in healthcare management through international journal publications.

A Student Testimonial

Completion of the course helps to expand work horizons and opens up career opportunities if you wish to pursue them. You can utilise lots of the course content in everyday work life. You can contribute to the work environment to a far greater extent as a result of a broadened education in matters relating to the Health Service. You also get co-opted onto all sorts of committees but at least you go prepared!

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The School of Research and Postgraduate Education, Old Stone Building, Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, St. James’s Hospital, Dublin 8. Tel: + 353 1 896 3556 / 3557 E-mail: gradapps@tcd.ie

Please note that changes may apply when the College Calendar is finalised by the University.