

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration

COLLEGE OF LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

100% ONLINE

120
CREDIT
HOURS

Admission Requirements:

- Complete the online program application accompanied by a non-refundable processing fee.
- Submit official high school with a minimum 2.5 GPA and/or college transcripts with a minimum 2.0 GPA.
- Students are not required to submit ACT or SAT test scores.

Cost:

- Per Credit: \$395
- Per Course: \$1,185
- Total Tuition: \$47,400
- Total Tuition + Fees: \$53,600



Timeline: 3.5 Years

Job Outlook in Texas:

220,128 Jobs

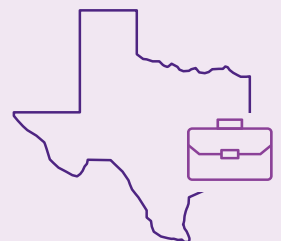
in 2025*

+1.1%

Employment Growth (2025-2026)

\$70,600 *per year*

Median Earnings



*Filtered by the proportion of the national workforce in these occupations with a Bachelor's degree. Source Lightcast 2026.



Major Requirements:

HCAD 201: Introduction to Health Services Administration

A general introduction of the structure and operations of patient care organizations with a focus on management and leadership theory and general overview of healthcare venues, administration and operations practices.

HCAD 241: Survey of Community & Public Health Issues

This course introduces the field of community and public health, its history, methods and contribution with the emphasis to help future administrators of healthcare in planning and delivery of health services.

HCAD 256: Research & Statistics in Healthcare Analysis

Introduces students to research methods—formulating a research question, model, reviewing the literature, and writing up research results in a healthcare context. Examines methods of descriptive statistics and probability, including describing, exploring, and comparing data and how it can be used in decision making.

HCAD 262: Fundamentals of Health Information Technology and Management

Explores the critical role information technologies and systems play in healthcare organizations. This course discusses underlying technologies including hardware, applications, the Internet, and telehealth; planning and project management and the future of information technology in healthcare management.

HCAD 287: Healthcare Personnel and Interdisciplinary Team Leadership

Introduces students to the essential role of human resources management within healthcare organizations. Serves as a foundation for all aspects of human resources planning, development, and administration, with an emphasis of the unique requirements related to healthcare personnel and interdisciplinary team leadership.

ECON 260: Principles of Macroeconomics

Supply and demand, the framework of the free enterprise system, national income accounting, unemployment and inflation, fiscal policy and public debt, monetary system and monetary policy, international trade, economic growth, and selected concepts of business ethics.

HCAD 327: Innovation & Trends in Healthcare

Introduces current trends and opportunities throughout the healthcare industry. Topics include the role of information technology, trends in reimbursement, innovative approaches to delivery, and other components that influence patient care.

HCAD 365: Healthcare Financial Analysis Introduction to economic and financial concepts unique to healthcare. Examines the significance of economics in healthcare decisions. Analyzes various finance concepts such as: budgetary, financial management, and cost accounting to demonstrate operations and decision making under cost constraints often seen in competitive healthcare markets.

HCAD 385: Healthcare Marketing and Strategic Planning

An introduction to Healthcare Strategic Planning and Marketing Discusses and applies the concepts of healthcare planning and marketing to healthcare delivery, assessment of community needs and resource planning in both ambulatory and clinical settings. Includes health services planning and trends, demand for and use of health services, research methods, and sources of marketing and planning data.

HCAD 422: Ethical Implications of Healthcare Policies and Regulation

Students utilize an ethical perspective to consider health policy, regulations, and current reforms in healthcare.

SOCI 442: Cultural Diversity

A study of American minority relations including facts and myths, sources and consequences of prejudice, and patterns of intergroup relations.

COMM 460: Health Communication

This course is a survey of communication in the healthcare context. The course explores the role of communication in healthcare delivery, health promotion and media, disease prevention, risk communication, social support, and human subjects protections.

HCAD 465: Healthcare Leadership and Relationship Management

Students analyze leadership and administration specific to healthcare facilities. Topics considered: healthcare organizational structure, hiring, management issues, conflict resolution, and navigation of stakeholder relationships.

HCAD 411: Healthcare Quality & Safety

An overview of quality and safety issues within healthcare organizations. Students will gain knowledge in methods of assessing quality and techniques for improving quality and patient safety.

HCAD 421: Long Term Care Administration

An introduction to healthcare venues beyond acute healthcare, including long term acute care hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation facilities, and assisted living facilities. Provides students with essential knowledge and skills required for this rapidly expanding area of the healthcare industry.

HCAD 491: Healthcare Administration Capstone

This course provides students the opportunity to make a summative assessment of their learning as they plan vocational goals in this capstone course. For majors only. Senior year.



Public & Community Health Concentration Requirements:

Choose 3 courses:

COMO 408: Crisis Communication

Examines the theory and practice of crisis management in organizations from both social science and rhetorical perspectives. Using a case study approach and best practices for crisis management, students explore how to use communication to prevent, mitigate, and learn from crises in a way that benefits both organizations and stakeholders.

HCAD 311: Current Issues in Global Public Health

Study of health systems around the world by evaluating countries according to their healthcare systems, socioeconomic status and the challenges and opportunities for promoting the health of their citizens.

HCAD 441: Introduction to Epidemiology

This course integrates concepts from Epidemiology and Population Health in order to improve aggregate and selected population health. The role of the healthcare administrator in improving population health through collaboration with groups, organizations, and networks, and the use of epidemiological applications and technology are emphasized.

HCAD 461: Healthcare Disparities

An examination of the essential role of the determinants of health and disease in communities. Students will analyze correlations to disproportionately poor health outcomes in vulnerable populations. Students will also gain an introduction to the basic techniques of demographic analysis.

Change Management Concentration Requirements:

Choose 3 courses:

COMO 408: Crisis Communication

Examines the theory and practice of crisis management in organizations from both social science and rhetorical perspectives. Using a case study approach and best practices for crisis management, students explore how to use communication to prevent, mitigate, and learn from crises in a way that benefits both organizations and stakeholders.

LEAD 411: Decision Making in Organizations

This course provides an introductory-level analysis of individual and organizational-level decision making. Students will learn how to engage skills to assist employees in the navigation of organizational change.

HCAD 412: Health Communication Campaigns

Students utilize theory and research to produce and analyze health campaigns that focus on health promotion and disease prevention.

ORCO 411: Theories of Change Management

This course is a survey of organizational change, organizational development, and change management fields.

HCAD 432: Conflict Management in Healthcare

Introduces students to the underlying sources of conflict in healthcare settings and presents specific theories and techniques of negotiating among and between medical professionals and administration. While collaboration is emphasized, the course also presents tactics for securing essential terms in bargaining and group facilitation skills for building consensus.

Medical Billing Concentration Requirements:

KINO 302: Medical Terminology

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the language of the medical field, including word roots, prefixes and suffixes. The terminology will be specific to each system of the body. The course is presented in an electronic format using online technology.

HCAD 352: Foundations of Medical Billing & Patient Access

Introduces students to industry fundamentals, insurance models, data capture, and core coding systems ICD-10-CM, CPT®, and HCPCS Level II. Students will gain knowledge of medical necessity and documentation standards. Central to this course is an intensive focus on regulatory and compliance standards.

HCAD 354: Advanced Medical Billing & Reimbursement Strategies

This course builds on foundational knowledge in medical billing. Students will analyze the entire revenue cycle, study billing workflows, and learn how to optimize financial performance. Emphasis is placed on the unique requirements of government programs and commercial insurance carriers, with a focus on regulatory compliance.

HCAD 356: Career Development for Medical Billing Professionals

Navigate the landscape of medical billing careers while refining strategies for a targeted job search. Topics include conducting job market research, optimizing resumes and interview skills, and developing effective networking techniques. Additional focus will include exam review preparation for the Certified Professional Biller (CPB®)

Electives

13 hours of electives.

Continued on next page.



General Education/University Requirements

56 hours of general education and university requirements are needed to fulfill this degree, including 9-15 hours of Bible courses. Specific courses will be determined based on a student's incoming transfer credits.

Please see the ACU Catalog for full program details.

Jumpstart Your MHA Degree

If you plan to pursue a Master of Healthcare Administration degree, save time and money by taking six hours of graduate-level coursework while in your bachelor's program!

Course options include:

- HCAD 624: Foundations in Health Services Administration & Leadership
- HCAD 621: Healthcare Policies and Ethics
- HCAD 627: Innovation and Trends in Healthcare