

MHA Internship

Health Policy and Management

The MHA Internship provides students with an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills in analyzing a management problem at a health care or related organization. The Internship is a project-oriented experience in a health services or related organization. This means the student (in consultation with the Faculty Mentor and a field site Preceptor) identifies a management problem at the organization, which the student will address using analytic skills and tools developed through the MHA Program. The problem must not be so large that it cannot be addressed within the time limits, nor should it be so limited that it is inconsequential.

When can students register for the Internship?

Students are eligible to complete the MHA Internship after completing a substantial portion of the MHA program, including the core coursework. The timing of the Internship should be discussed with the student's faculty mentor.

How do students find an Internship?

The ultimate responsibility for securing the Internship rests with the student. The Department has information to assist students in identifying Internship opportunities in appropriate organizations, given the student's professional interests. Students should browse the [HPM list](#) and [COPH list](#) of past Internship sites and preceptors, as well as the Field Experience Canvas site. Students may complete the Internship at their current place of employment if working outside of their current scope of responsibilities while fulfilling all College and Department requirements and expectations.

How do students register for the Internship?

In the MHA Internship, students should register for PHC 6945 Supervised Field Experience (1-2 hours) and then PHC 6977 Special Project (3 hours), in consultation with their faculty mentor. While PHC 6945 and PHC 6977 are typically completed consecutively over two semesters, they can be completed simultaneously if the student has an approved Internship proposal, which is required for registration in PHC 6977.

To register for PHC 6945, students must complete all documentation required by COPH Academic Affairs ([Field Experience Plan Form](#)).

To register for PHC 6977, students must submit a proposal according to the [Internship Report Guidelines](#). Once the proposal is approved by the Faculty Mentor and Preceptor, the student can login to [Archivum](#) to submit a Contract Course Form for Special Project.

Can the Internship include activities beyond the defined project?

In addition to the project, students may engage in any other management activities deemed appropriate by the preceptor, e.g., attending staff meetings, conducting other analyses, etc. The performance of these activities; however, will not substitute for the project analysis and report.

NOTE: The MHA Internship is occasionally referred to as "Field Experience."