

# Academic Program Information

## Advising

Students are encouraged to meet with the Program Director before enrolling in their first course. Once in the Program, students are assigned an advisor who will assist the student in developing an academic plan and advice on other academic matters.

## Awards

**The Tom Crossman Prize for Public Policy** is awarded by the Graduate Program in Health Care Administration to a student who has demonstrated a significant interest in public policy in health. It is given in memory of Tom Crossman, an alumnus of the Program, who was passionately interested in public policy and at the time of his death was the Director of the Hospital Division of the Massachusetts Rate Setting Commission.

**Outstanding Achievement Award.** Each year the Program presents an award to one student (usually a graduating student) as the outstanding student in the Program. The award is based on scholarship and service to the Program.

**AUPHA/McGaw Scholars.** Each year the Program selects AUPHA/McGaw Scholars from among students who have completed one-third or less of the Program and who are in financial need. The funds are provided by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration.

## Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Master of Science degree in Health Care Administration must satisfactorily complete the degree requirements, including the field experience. Candidates for the degree must have demonstrated professional and ethical conduct as defined in the Student Handbook. The Program should be completed within five years. The Program Director may grant an extension of one additional year. Further extensions must be approved by the Dean of the Graduate School for Health Studies.

## Graduation Honors

Any student completing the program course work with a grade point average of 3.80 or higher will be awarded the Master of Health Administration degree with Distinction.

## Orientation

Orientation sessions for new students are held at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. Students will be notified about the date and time of these programs.

## Student Handbook

A SHS Student Handbook, distributed to students before the start of the academic year, details student rights and responsibilities, SHS academic regulations, tuition and fees, financial aid for graduate students, college facilities, student services, and other useful general information.

## Student Records

Simmons College, in accordance with the Educational Privacy Act of 1974 (the Buckley Amendment), provides for the privacy and accessibility of certain student records. Students are permitted to review and inspect their own records and to challenge specific parts of them thought to be inaccurate. This should be done under the supervision of the Program Director or Program Assistant.