# Clinical and Health Informatics, M.S.

The online Master of Science degree in Clinical and Health Informatics gives students a solid foundation in healthcare decision-making using methods developed from study of biomedical informatics, healthcare operations management, industrial systems engineering, nursing, pharmacy, and population health.

Based in UW–Madison’s Institute for Clinical and Translation Research, this online graduate degree program provides students with an interdisciplinary approach to develop innovative solutions and improve current practices in health policy, clinical practice, data security, and biomedical and health information systems.

The program is designed to serve professionals for clinical or information technology-related work in the healthcare industry. Graduates will be ready to meet the growing workforce demand for informaticists.

Further detail, including tuition and costs, is provided [here](https://pdc.wisc.edu/capstone-certificates/capstone-clinical-health-informatics/).

## Admissions

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website. Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements of the Graduate School plus those of the program(s).

### Requirements Detail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Deadline</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>December 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Deadline</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)</td>
<td>Not required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Proficiency Test</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters of Recommendation Required</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The CHI Admissions Committee considers all aspects of each application. The applicant must meet the minimum requirements of the Graduate School plus those of the program, listed here:

- Submit a resume per the Graduate School’s need for "Personal Statement"
- Answer 6-7 questions in Supplemental Application
- Successful completion of a college level statistics course or equivalent work experience

## Funding

Students enrolled in these programs are not permitted to accept teaching assistancies, project assistantships, research assistantships or other appointments that would result in a tuition waiver. Students in these programs cannot enroll in other graduate programs nor take courses outside the prescribed curriculum. You may, however, qualify for a fee grant for the application fee. [https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/fee-grant/](https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/fee-grant/)

## Minimum Graduate School Requirements

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements [here](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

## Major Requirements

### Mode of Instruction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

GRADUATE WORK FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS

If applicable to the program completing, and with program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 12 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to the master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate

If applicable to the program completing and with program approval, 6 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 12 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison special student. If necessary to meet the Graduate School minimum graduate credit requirements for the degree, special student coursework may need to be converted to graduate credits. Once converted, students are assessed the difference in tuition between special and graduate tuition. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

An advisor is assigned to incoming students and will work with students individually to ensure they are making satisfactory progress toward a degree.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

12 credits

TIME CONSTRAINTS

Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

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/)

REQUIRED COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B M I 573</td>
<td>Foundations of Data-Driven Healthcare</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E P D 706</td>
<td>Change Management</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I S Y E 557</td>
<td>Human Factors Engineering for Healthcare Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURSING 702</td>
<td>Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Diverse Communities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURSING 715</td>
<td>Evaluation of Health Informatics Solutions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURSING 772</td>
<td>Leadership and Organizational Decision-Making in Health Care</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTM 753</td>
<td>Healthcare Operations Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHM PRAC 617</td>
<td>Health System Pharmacy Data Analysis and Informatics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POP HLTH 709</td>
<td>Translational and Outcomes Research in Health and Health Care</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POP HLTH 795</td>
<td>Principles of Population Health Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B M I 750</td>
<td>Cumulative Capstone in Clinical and Health Informatics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 30

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.
• Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
• 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://employeedisabilities.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 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 Medicine and Public Health

Any student in a School of Medicine and Public Health graduate program who feels that they have been treated unfairly in regards to educational decisions and/or outcomes or issues specific to the graduate program, including academic standing, progress to degree, professional activities, appropriate advising, and a program’s community standards by a faculty member, staff member, postdoc, or student has the right to complain 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. Each program’s grievance advisor is listed on the “Research” tab of the SMPH intranet (https://intranet.med.wisc.edu/).

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.

This policy does not apply to instances when a graduate student wishes to report research misconduct. For such reports refer to the UW-Madison Policy for Reporting Research Misconduct for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Research Associates (https://research.wisc.edu/kb-article/?id=84924).

Requirements for Programs

The School of Medicine and Public Health Office of Basic Research, Biotechnology and Graduate Studies requires that each graduate program designate a grievance advisor, who should be a tenured faculty member, and will request the name of the grievance advisor annually. The program director will serve as the alternate grievance advisor in the event that the grievance advisor is named in the grievance. The program must notify students of the grievance advisor, including posting the grievance advisor’s name on the program’s Guide page and handbook.

The grievance advisor or program director 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.
3. Should a satisfactory resolution not be achieved, the student should contact the program's grievance advisor or program director to discuss the complaint. The student may approach the grievance advisor or program director alone or with a UW-Madison faculty or staff member. The grievance advisor or program director should keep a record of contacts with regards to possible grievances. The first attempt is to help the student informally address the complaint prior to pursuing a formal grievance. 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 or program director 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, 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 business days from the date the 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 or program director will convene a faculty committee composed of at least three members to manage the grievance. Any faculty member involved in the grievance or who feels that they cannot be impartial may not participate in the committee. Committee composition should reflect diverse viewpoints within the program.
   b. The faculty committee, through the grievance advisor or program director, will obtain a written response from the person or persons toward whom the grievance is directed. The grievance advisor or program director will inform this person that their response will be shared with the student filing the grievance.
c. The grievance advisor or program director 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 or program director 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 SMPH senior associate dean for basic research, biotechnology and graduate studies within 10 business 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 5 business days of the written appeal, acknowledging receipt of the formal appeal and establishing a timeline for the review to be completed.

b. The senior associate dean or their designee may request additional materials and/or arrange meetings with the grievant and/or others. If meetings occur, the senior associate dean or their designee will meet with both the grievant and the person or persons toward whom the grievance is directed.

c. The senior associate dean or their designee will assemble an ad hoc committee of faculty from outside of the student's graduate program and ask them to prepare a written recommendation on whether to uphold or reverse the decision of the program on the student's initial grievance. The committee may request additional materials and/or arrange meetings with the grievant and/or others. If meetings occur, the committee will meet with both the grievant and the person or persons toward whom the grievance is directed.

d. The senior associate dean or their designee will make a final decision within 20 business days of receipt of the committee's recommendation.

e. The SMPH Office of Basic Research, Biotechnology, and Graduate Studies must store documentation of the grievance for seven years. Grievances that set a precedent may be stored indefinitely.

7. The student may file an appeal of the School of Medicine and Public Health 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/).

Time Limits

Steps in the grievance procedures must be initiated and completed within the designated time periods except when modified by mutual consent. If the student fails to initiate the next step in the grievance procedure within the designated time period, the grievance will be considered resolved by the decision at the last completed step.

OTHER

Funding is not offered along with offers for admission.

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**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.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Health: Describe and explain background knowledge of the history, goals, methods and challenges of the major health sciences, including human biology, genomics, clinical and translational science, healthcare delivery, personal health and population health.

2. Information Science and Technology: Demonstrate background knowledge of concepts, terminology, methods and tools of information science and technology for managing and analyzing data, information and knowledge.

3. Social and Behavioral Science: Evaluate the effects of social, behavioral, legal, psychological, management, cognitive, and economic theories, methods, and models applicable to health informatics from multiple levels including individual, social group, and society.

4. Health Information Science and Technology: Determine concepts and recognize tools for managing and analyzing biomedical and health data, information, and knowledge. Key foci include systems design and development, standards, integration, interoperability, and protection of biomedical and health information.

5. Human Factors and Socio-technical Systems: Apply social behavioral theories and human factors engineering to better understand the interaction between users and information technologies within the organizational, social, and physical contexts of their lives, and apply this understanding in information system design.

6. Social and Behavioral Aspects of Health: Evaluate and apply social determinants of health and patient-generated data to analyze problems arising from health or disease, to recognize the implications of these problems on daily activities, and to recognize and/or develop practical solutions to managing these problems.

7. Social, Behavioral, and Information Science and Technology Applied to Health: Appraise the diverse foundation concepts and facets in order to develop integrative approaches to the design, implementation, and evaluation of health informatics solutions.

8. Professionalism: Demonstrate conduct that reflects the aims or qualities that characterize a professional person encompassing especially a defined body of knowledge and skills and their lifelong maintenance as well as adherence to an ethical code.

9. Interprofessional Collaborative Practice: Exhibit behavior that reflects the foundations of values/ethics, roles/responsibilities, interprofessional communication practices, and interprofessional teamwork for team-based practice.

10. Leadership: Demonstrate the following characteristics: credibility, honest, competence, ability to inspire, and ability to formulate and communicate a vision.

**PEOPLE**

**PROGRAM STAFF:**
Jack Champeau, MSM, Professional Programs Director, Clinical and Health Informatics
Rachel Sauer, MS, Student Services and Program Coordinator, Clinical and Health Informatics

FACULTY MENTORS:
Elizabeth S Burnside, MD, MPH, MS, Professor, Radiology, Associate Dean of Team Science and Interdisciplinary Research, Deputy Executive Director for the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
Heidi Twedt, MD, Visiting Professor of Internal Medicine, Co-Academic Director of Clinical & Health Informatics

FACULTY CONTRIBUTORS:
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Chris Sorkness, RPh, PharmD, Distinguished Professor of Pharmacy and Medicine, Senior Associate Executive Director, Workforce Development
Jack Temple, PharmD, MS, Director, Pharmacy Business Services and Informatics
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