

Health Systems, Management & Policy

Take Your Career to New Heights with a Degree in Health Systems, Management & Policy
Apply Now for Fall 2022

The American healthcare system fuels the U.S. economy and rescues millions of patients from diseases and injuries that were disabling and fatal conditions in previous decades. At the same time, millions in the U.S. fail to receive the health services they need and deserve. The cost of care strains household and government budgets to the point of crisis. Americans pay far more for healthcare than residents of any other country, yet our health status and life expectancy rank below that of most other developed nations. And in countries across the globe, leaders face difficult choices regarding how best to strengthen health systems in the presence of binding resource constraints and many competing societal needs.

Professionals in the rapidly expanding field of **Health Systems, Management & Policy (HSMP)** identify causes and create solutions for these problems, adapting fixes for use in diverse American and global communities. A master's degree from CU's HSMP Program provides students with the ticket to rewarding careers as leaders in policy analysis, healthcare administration, research, consulting, tech, philanthropy, public health practice, and advocacy. The degree also offers a versatile base for pursuing advanced doctoral education in areas such as medicine, biomedical science, and health services research. Graduates work within a wide range of settings including hospital systems, public health agencies, health insurers, medical practices, long-term care, government agencies, foundations, academic institutions, and think tanks. The MPH degree is the world's definitive credential for advanced graduate training in the applied public health sciences.

Train with Us in Colorado

Colorado and the Rocky Mountain West provide an exceedingly rich and rewarding environment for studying innovations in health policy and health system transformation. Students in the HSMP program learn to apply tools from **economics, data science, epidemiology, law, public policy, and management science** to solve complex health system problems. Students work closely with CU's internationally-renowned faculty and their collaborators in government and the private sector, providing unparalleled access to leading experts in Colorado, across the U.S. and around the globe. And students can engage in health issues and innovations that are uniquely strong in Colorado, including areas of sports medicine, rural health, wilderness medicine, tribal health, sustainability, climate change, and health equity.

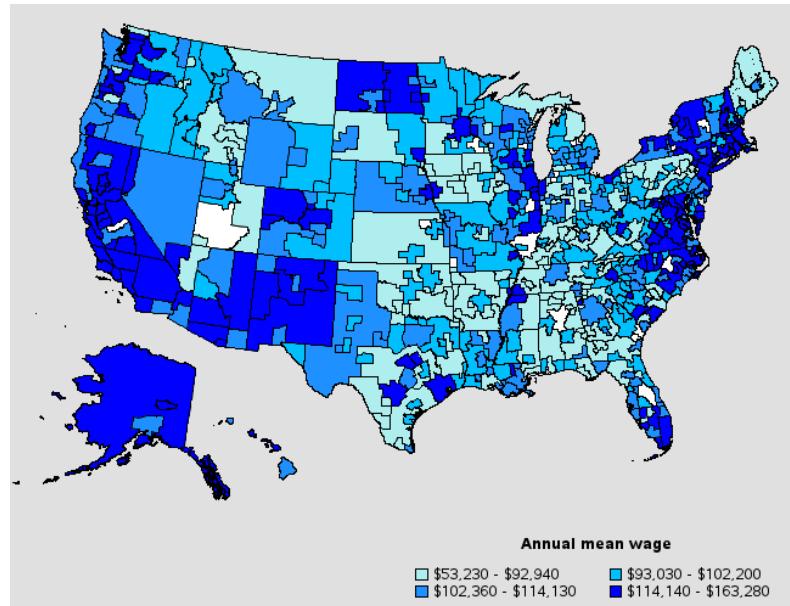


Students enjoy rich opportunities for collaboration and learning with numerous academic and clinical institutions affiliated with the \$5 billion state of the art **CU Anschutz Medical Campus** in the greater Denver area. Campus affiliates include University of Colorado Hospital, Colorado's comprehensive cancer center, Children's Hospital Colorado, the VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System, and UCHealth's network of healthcare facilities across the state. Beyond campus, faculty and students collaborate with innovative healthcare systems and government agencies regionally and nationally, utilizing a robust data environment that includes a campus-wide clinical data warehouse, regional electronic health data networks, and access to restricted federal data sources.

The **Colorado School of Public Health** is the only accredited school of public health in the Rocky Mountain region, operating as a partnership of the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and University of Northern Colorado. When not studying, students enjoy all that Denver and the Rocky Mountain region have to offer.

Employment Outlook for Graduates

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that more than 400,000 people work in the HSMP field nationally. The average annual salary in the field is just over \$115,000, and earnings increase rapidly above this level for those who obtain graduate education and gain more experience and technical analytic skills. The Bureau projects that jobs in this field will increase by 32% over the next decade, much faster than job growth in other sectors of the economy, due to continued technological advances and aging of the U.S. population. (By comparison, epidemiologists earn an average of \$71,000 per year with projected job growth at 5% over the next decade). Employment prospects in the greater Denver metropolitan area are even stronger, with an average annual salary exceeding \$128,000. Clinicians with HSMP training, including physicians, nurses and pharmacists, earn significantly more in roles combining clinical & systems skills.



Engage in Systems Science and Policy Research

We produce rigorous systems science and policy research, without the spin, that is used across the U.S. and internationally. Students have opportunities to engage with faculty on leading-edge studies that evaluate innovations in care delivery, healthcare financing, regulation, law and policy. Our faculty study novel strategies for expanding health insurance coverage, coordinating health and social care, preparing health systems to respond to large-scale emergencies like COVID-19, improving care for Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries, addressing healthcare needs in rural areas, and reducing inequities in health and healthcare for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations. Our department serves as the national program office for the [Systems for Action](#) research program funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, as well as the [National Health Security Preparedness Index](#) created by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We collaborate with many research centers on the Anschutz campus and beyond, including the those at the Colorado Cancer Center, Children's Hospital Colorado, the Veterans Affairs health system, and the Department of Family Medicine.

How to Apply

Applications to CU's [Master of Public Health \(MPH\) in Health Systems, Management & Policy](#) are accepted on a **rolling basis during the Spring semester**, for enrollment in Fall 2022. **GRE scores are no longer required** for the MPH application. Well-qualified MPH students and others with previous training may choose to continue study in CU's [PhD Program in Health Services Research](#), which provides advanced training for research careers in health systems and health policy. More information on how to apply to these graduate programs is available on our [website](#). Scholarships and tuition assistance are available for qualified students. Space is limited, so apply as early as possible.