



College of Public Health
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Doctor of Philosophy in Health Services Research, Administration, and Policy
Program Competencies

Upon graduation, a student with a Doctor of Philosophy in Health Services Research, Administration, and Policy should be able to...

1. Apply alternative theoretical and conceptual models from a range of relevant disciplines to health services research.
2. Apply in-depth multidisciplinary knowledge and skills relevant to health services research.
3. Utilize the knowledge of the structures, performance, quality, policy, and environmental context of health and health care to formulate solutions for health policy problems.
4. Critically evaluate evidence, synthesize findings, and draw inferences from literature relevant to health services research.
5. Pose innovative and important research questions, informed by systematic reviews of the literature, stakeholder needs, and relevant theoretical and conceptual models.
6. Use a conceptual model to specify study constructs for a health services research question and develop variables that reliably and validly measure these constructs.
7. Select appropriate interventional (experimental and quasi-experimental) or observational (qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods) study designs to address specific health services research questions.
8. Know how to collect primary health and health care data obtained by survey, qualitative, or mixed methods.
9. Use appropriate analytical methods to clarify associations between variables and to delineate causal inferences.
10. Appropriately interpret the results of data analysis and discuss the implications for policy and practice, to support public health decision making.
11. Effectively communicate the findings and implications of health services research through multiple modalities to technical and lay audiences.
12. Implement research protocols with standardized procedures that ensure reproducibility of the science and ensure the ethical and responsible conduct of research in the design, implementation, and dissemination of health services research.
13. Articulate the importance of collaborating with policymakers, organizations, and communities to plan, conduct, and translate health services research into policy and practice.