

Doctor of Health Sciences Education for Practicing Healthcare Professionals

A.T. Still University

Home of the world's first osteopathic medical school, founded in 1892, A.T. Still University (ATSU) is a multidisciplinary healthcare education and training university founded on whole person care. ATSU comprises the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCOM), the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (SOMA), the Arizona School of Health Sciences (ASHS), the Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ASDOH), and the online School of Health Management (SHM).

Arizona School of Health Sciences

The Arizona School of Health Sciences, located in Mesa, Ariz., offers doctoral and master of science degrees in a wide range of healthcare disciplines and strives to advance healthcare by educating compassionate, competent healthcare professionals. The school's interdisciplinary and technology emphasis, with incorporation of a philosophy of wholeness and treatment of body, mind, and spirit, creates an excellent professional educational environment.

Doctor of Health Sciences (D.H.Sc.)

The Doctor of Health Sciences (D.H.Sc.) is a post-professional degree designed for master prepared healthcare professionals and is offered through blending distance and residential education. The program aims to develop and enhance the professional skills needed to provide competent leadership in today's challenging healthcare systems. The program focuses on building proficiencies in critical analysis and evaluation of complex issues that affect the health of society. This advanced degree prepares graduates to better understand and effectively manage the ongoing challenges of access, cost, and quality in healthcare. The program facilitates the development of resolution oriented practices to better analyze, plan, implement and evaluate proposed solutions to health system dilemmas. The D.H.Sc. program provides present healthcare professionals with the knowledge and skills to excel in project management, decision-making, organizational management, establishing evidence-based standards, and gaining the competencies to apply research to professional practice.

The Curriculum

ASHS offers a unique program which consists of a blended online and residential structure with 64 credits being offered online and six credits offered through a one week on-site residency in Mesa, AZ. The program is based on three foundational areas which cultivate expertise in critical analysis and evaluation of complex healthcare issues and challenges affecting health professions. The foundational areas are: decision analysis, health sciences, and evidence-based practice. In addition, the program promotes students to focus and gain advanced comprehension in areas of interest to them through offering three concentrations: global health; leadership and organizational behavior; and advanced physician assistant studies. Other concentrations are planned for the future.

An applied research project is also a highlight of the program and consists of five courses that develop a research project from the stages of proposal development to dissemination. The Winter Institute is a one week educational event held at the Arizona School of Health Sciences on the A.T. Still University campus in Mesa, Arizona where students will actively participate in events which address relevant health care issues that impact educators, administrators, researchers, and clinicians.

Admission Requirements

Candidates accepted for admission to the Doctor of Health Sciences program will have:

1. Earned master or doctorate degree from a regionally accredited university, or from foreign universities based on a transcript evaluation completed by an agency from the NACES website, www.naces.org;
2. A minimum overall graduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;
3. All official transcripts prior to matriculation;
4. Proof as a licensed or credentialed healthcare professional and/or have two years experience as a practitioner, administrator, educator, or researcher in healthcare;
5. A resume or curriculum vitae detailing personal, educational, and professional achievements;
6. Three letters of recommendation;
7. A completed application form and the application fee;
8. May be asked to participate in a short phone interview.

Tuition and Expenses

Tuition for the Doctor of Health Sciences program for the 2009-10 year is \$400 per credit hour for new students and \$394.00 for ongoing students. Most courses are three credit hours (\$1,200 per course), a few are five credit hours (\$2,000 per course), and the Winter Institute is six credit hours (\$2,400). There are fees for books, reference materials, Winter Institute travel and accommodations, and an application fee of \$60. All fees and tuitions are subject to change.

Financial Assistance

Scholarship and financial assistance opportunities are listed on the ATSU website www.atsu.edu.

Accreditation

A.T. Still University is accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, phone 800.621.7440. Degree-granting authority for ASHS has been given by the Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education, 1400 West Washington Rd., Room 260, Phoenix, AZ 85007. Phone 602.542.5709

Application Information

For additional information contact an Enrollment Counselor
phone 877-469-2878
onlineinquiry@atsu.edu