



The University of Texas at Austin

MS Health Care Transformation

Dell Medical School & McCombs School of Business

Frequently Asked Questions

What will be the mix of in person vs. online classes?

Each course will begin and end in one of the 4 on-campus weeks in Austin (August, January, May, and the following August). In between, courses will continue online and will include a weekly 90-minute synchronous class time in addition to asynchronous activities, including assignments.

How many hours a week are required for the online classes?

On average, you should be prepared to spend about 15 hours a week during each online class week. Most of that time will be spent reading, viewing lectures, and completing assignments. The 90-minute class is the only time you are required to be somewhere at a particular time. You will be part of a small study group that will regularly submit assignments, so you will need to work with these team members to find time to coordinate your work.

Will this be considered a full-time program for non-Dell students?

The program is considered a full-time program for all enrolled students, even though students will continue in their jobs during the program year.

Who will teach the classes?

The faculty for the MS in Health Care Transformation is made up of faculty members from across campus, including faculty from the McCombs School of Business, Dell Medical School, Moody College of Communications and Hicks School of Social Work.

Are the courses all created from scratch?

Yes, these courses are being developed specifically for the MS in Health Care Transformation program.

Questions about projects, e.g.: Will we come up with projects or will we join pre-existing projects? How will the projects be structured? Is there an end/capstone thesis project?

Students are given flexibility to propose projects with their teams. The projects will be broken up across the 3 semesters with the fall semester focused on project proposals, spring semester focused on implementation and summer focused on analysis. The projects will culminate in the final semester with a presentation.

An MPH is directed toward community health—is this more directed to institutional/clinical change?

The MS in Health Care Transformation is for professionals who want to lead transformation in health care. Most existing graduate programs in health care, business, administration, and so on prepare students to succeed in the existing health care system. The purpose of the program is to equip students to think differently about health care delivery, to set higher aspirations for what is possible in health care, and to realize those aspirations by learning how to design, implement, and sustain value-based transformation of health care. To achieve this purpose, the program is oriented toward implementation and practice; it's not a theoretical program.

Where would the degree be coming from? UT Austin? Dell Med, or the Value Institute?

All graduate degrees from The University of Texas at Austin are conferred by the UT Austin Graduate School Dean.

Roughly how many students are you looking to enroll?

We are envisioning enrolling between 35-50 students for the class of 2020

Would students have to live in Austin or would they only have to live in Austin during those Residency weeks?

Students are not required to live in Austin and the program is designed to allow for working professionals across the globe to be able to enroll in the program. Students are expected to be in Austin during the Residential Weeks and students will be given academic calendars ahead of the program to be able to plan.

If I only spend four weeks in Austin, will I get to know my classmates and the faculty?

The year of the degree program is just the beginning of what we expect will turn into lifetime relationships. We use every opportunity to build these networks, whether it is on campus, during the 90-minute synchronous session, with asynchronous assignments (like discussion boards) or working with your study group. Everyone admitted to this program is committed to changing health care, and you will learn as much from each other as from the faculty.