Program Description

The Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (BSHS) in Health Intervention and Disaster Response (HIDR) is a degree completion program designed for graduates of the Civil Affairs Medical Sergeants Course (CAMS; 38W4) or the Special Forces Medical Sergeants Course (SFMS; 18D). However, this program is open to students in sister services, and outside of the military community, who have international health care experience. This degree completion program is conducted entirely in an online format, accessible from anywhere in the world. Graduates earning this degree will be prepared to work in the field of disaster management and crisis response both at home and abroad. Potential employers for graduates of this program include FEMA, DHHS, DHS, World Vision, the World Health Organization and many other international and non-governmental disaster response organizations.

Student Outcomes

- Develop disaster response plans and humanitarian outreach programs that coordinate health services across various international aid organizations in diverse settings.
- Integrate telemedicine into domestic and global humanitarian responses.
- Apply principles of health promotion and disease prevention to identify strategies for mitigating health risks associated with disasters and humanitarian crises.
- Create comprehensive disaster response plans and humanitarian outreach programs that coordinate health services across various international aid organizations in diverse settings.
- Demonstrate planning and risk management proficiency through multiple case study based exercises.
- Develop critical thinking and analysis skills specifically related to the medical and public health considerations in disaster response.
- Apply principles of disease prevention and health promotion with special consideration for women’s and maternal health, infant mortality, the disabled and those suffering from religious and ethnic disparities.

Curriculum

The BSHS with a major in HIDR requires successful completion of 120 credit hours, divided into three categories: General Education (21 credit hours), Electives (39 credit hours), and Health Sciences Distance Education (60 credit hours).

Transferable Coursework

(60 credit hours)

For an assessment of your previous coursework, please contact the program office. Coursework will be evaluated for transfer using the following criteria:

- College-level
- Academic in nature
- Completed at a regionally accredited institution
- Earned with a ‘C’ or better

General Education

(21 credit hours)

English Composition
Science (6 credits)*
Humanities and/or Social Sciences (12 credits)*

*Applicants may complete outstanding coursework through additional Health Sciences Distance Education courses.

Advanced Standing and Electives

(39 credit hours)

Academic credit may be awarded for ACE-recognized military courses. Additionally, up to 39 credits of advanced standing may be awarded to graduates of non-college based health programs who present appropriate documentation (e.g. EMT or RN license).

Coursework at GW

(60 credit hours; 3 credits each, unless noted)

Health Sciences Distance Education

CML 2143 Current Issues in Health Sciences Management

EHS 2211 Introduction to Telemedicine
EHS 4101 Humanitarian Relief Operations

HSCI 2101 Psychosocial Aspects of Health & Illness
HSCI 2102 Pathophysiology
HSCI 2104 Management of Health Science Services
HSCI 2105 Current Issues in Bioethics
HSCI 2110 Disease Prevention & Health Promotion Concepts
HSCI 2112W Writing in the Health Sciences
HSCI 2113 Informatics in the Health Sciences
HSCI 2114 Healthcare in Developing Nations
HSCI 2115 Introduction to Biostatistics
HSCI 4102 Human Physiology in Extreme Environments
HSCI 4106 Intro to Epidemiology for Health Sciences
HSCI 4112W Research and Writing in the Health Sciences
HSCI Electives (9 credits)

MLS 4114 Clinical Microbiology I (2 credits)
MLS 4115 Parasitology & Mycology (1 credit)
MLS 4141 Immunology & Serology
Apply for Admission

All applicants are required to have earned a minimum of 60 credit hours of college-level coursework, demonstrating at least a cumulative 2.5 GPA from a regionally accredited institution, to include the following:

- English Composition (3 credits)
- Science (6 credits)
- Humanities and/or Social Sciences (12 credits)

Applicants also need demonstrated experience in health care. International experience is strongly preferred.

1) ONLINE APPLICATION
Apply to the program by visiting the website above and create an online application. The application fee is waived for active-duty military personnel.

2) RESUME
Attach your current resume or CV. Active-duty military do not need to submit a resume.

3) STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
Attach your one page statement of purpose, which explains:
- Why you are interested in the HIDR Program at GW?
- What experience do you have related to international health care?

4) RECOMMENDATION
Add the recommender’s contact information. Only one is required.

5) SEND OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT(S)
Official transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Please send them to the address below:

The George Washington University
Health Sciences Programs
Office of Admissions
2100 W. Pennsylvania Ave, N.W., Suite 5079
Washington, DC 20037

6) SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION
Submit your online application. Once submitted, you can log in to your application and track receipt of the supporting documents through the “application status” box.

REQUIRED TESTS
The program does not require the submission of an entrance exam. Applicants whose native language is not English or who are not citizens of countries where English is the official language are required to submit scores from either TOEFL or IELTS. Please visit the Admissions website for more detailed information.

COSTS AND FUNDING
Current information concerning tuition, fees, and other estimated expenses can be found on the program website. Students who are on active-duty are eligible for a special military discount tuition rate. Please contact the program office for further information.