About the Program

Are you interested in health information management?

Have you gone to a doctor, picked up medicine at a pharmacy, or purchased health care insurance? If so, you have been influenced by the work of health information management (HIM) professionals. HIM professionals make the health care industry function by connecting people, processes, technology, data, and the best business practices.

The Affordable Care Act has forced the health care industry to become more data-driven. Hospitals and insurance companies have implemented electronic health record systems and are building massive data marts. The McKinsey Global Institute estimates that $300 billion in value annually can be realized by managing these data. The Education Advisory Board lists “Hospital and Health Systems” as one of the top five industries for big data jobs in the US, and research projects that non-federal hospitals nationally, between 2012 and 2022, will add close to 3,000 new computer and information systems managers to their ranks, representing a 41% increase for that group of workers.

While the emphasis of the program is health information management, the skills learned in the program are readily transferable to other areas such as information system management and health services management. Both of these paths have rapid growth and significantly positive employment changes. Medical Health Services Management has a projected growth rate of 17% and 56,300 jobs between 2014 and 2024. Computer and Information Systems Management has a projected growth rate of 15% and a positive employment change of 53,700 jobs between 2014 and 2024.

Program Highlights

Slippery Rock University’s Master of Science in Health Information Management offers:

- A 33-credit program that can be completed in 12 months
- Flexibility—blended coursework (onsite and online)
- Interdisciplinary instruction in healthcare, technology, and business management
- A curriculum that reflects the current industry standards and principles
- Expert faculty with earned doctorates

Tuition & Assistantships

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office www.sru.edu/FinAid or the Office of Graduate Admissions or make special arrangements with the department chair.

Admissions Requirements

All applicants must submit the following materials along with the completed application form and non-refundable application fee:

1. An earned baccalaureate degree in a health care or information systems discipline, or a baccalaureate degree from another discipline and have at least five years’ experience in a health care field and an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4 point scale).

2. Official transcripts from an accredited undergraduate institution.

To ensure program currency, students must complete all degree requirements within 4 years with an overall GPA of 3.0, or make special arrangements with the department chair.

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and it is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.