

Health Sciences Program



Student Handbook 2026-2027

<https://www.butler.edu/health-professions/bachelor-of-health-sciences/health-sciences-major/>

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Health Sciences Program Policies

Program Handbook, 2026-2027 Academic Year

BSHS Program Welcome

Welcome to the BSHS program! We strive to provide a supportive community, intellectually challenging and engaging learning experiences, and skills necessary for twenty-first century health professionals.

Program Contact Information

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences Program Health Sciences and Healthcare & Business majors
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College of Health Professions Administration

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Mission, Vision, Values

Mission

To develop graduates who improve the world's health

Vision

To be the premier destination for undergraduate health education

We value

Collaboration

Community

Inclusivity

Integrity

Student, faculty, and staff wellbeing

Introduction

There are two majors within the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences program: Healthcare & Business and Health Sciences.

Healthcare & Business (HCB) Major

The HCB major is a collaboration between the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and the Lacy School of Business. This major is designed to prepare students to be successful professionals in a variety of areas within the healthcare sector. Graduates from this program are well-prepared for direct entry into the workforce, as well as entry into graduate programs. Examples of industries/areas in which graduates pursue careers include but are not limited to non-clinical areas within hospitals & healthcare systems, pharmaceutical and medical device industry, health insurance, healthcare consulting, clinical research organizations, public health, law/public policy, and a variety of graduate programs.

Health Sciences (HS) Major

The health science major was designed to optimally prepare students for a variety of clinically focused graduate programs in the healthcare field. Most students in this major plan to continue their education past the bachelor level. This curriculum was designed to ensure necessary skills for all healthcare professionals, regardless of setting, and to satisfy typical prerequisite requirements for admission into a wide variety of healthcare related graduate programs. Examples of careers pursued by graduates include but are not limited to physician assistant, physician, dentist, optometrist, physical therapist, occupational

therapist, anesthesiologist assistant, pathologist assistant, genetic counselor, cardiovascular perfusionist, chiropractor, and athletic trainer.

Student Learning Outcomes

Healthcare and Business

Students successfully completing this program will be able to:

- Demonstrate ethical, professional, collaborative, and culturally sensitive behavior in business and healthcare settings.
- Integrate natural & social sciences and healthcare fundamentals with business principles to solve complex problems and optimize health outcomes.
- Locate, critically analyze, and apply data in a manner that supports evidence-based healthcare.
- Communicate effectively with laypersons, health professionals, and business leaders on health and business-related matters.

Health Sciences

Students successfully completing this program will be able to:

- Demonstrate ethical, professional, collaborative, and culturally sensitive behaviors within the healthcare setting.
- Integrate knowledge and skills from natural, formal, and social sciences with healthcare fundamentals to solve complex problems and optimize health outcomes.
- Locate, critically analyze, and apply data in a manner that supports evidence-based healthcare.
- Communicate effectively with laypersons and healthcare professionals on a variety of health-related topics.

Program of Study

Within the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (BSHS) program, there are two majors: Healthcare & Business, and Health Sciences. Current curricula for the majors with BSHS program are located on CHP Community Resources on Canvas. Curricular requirements are based on the date students enter the program, not the date one started at Butler (if different.)

Departmental Distinction and University Honors

University Honors

Qualifying students participating in the University Honors Program may earn the Latin honors of *Cum laude*, *Magna cum laude*, or *Summa cum laude* upon graduation. Details of

the University Honors Program are located at <https://www.butler.edu/academics/honors/>.

Departmental Distinction

Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Health Science (BSHS) or Healthcare and Business major may earn academic distinction by demonstrating excellence beyond standard degree requirements. To qualify for distinction, students must achieve a cumulative GPA that meets the program's distinction threshold (minimum GPA of 3.6 within the major) and do not have professional or ethical conduct violations. For high or highest distinction, the student must achieve a cumulative GPA that meets the program's distinction threshold, complete one of the approved distinction pathways outlined below, and have no professional and ethical conduct violations.

Levels of departmental distinction

"In (major) with Distinction" may be awarded to individuals who earn a departmental (not cumulative) GPA of at least 3.6 at the time of graduation.

"In (major) with High Distinction" may be awarded to individuals who earn a departmental (not cumulative) GPA of at least 3.7 AND pass a distinction pathway OR complete research that results in a thesis or manuscript submission.

"In (major) with Highest Distinction" may be awarded to individuals who earn a departmental (not cumulative) GPA of at least 3.8 AND pass a distinction pathway or complete research that results in a thesis or manuscript submission.

Distinction Pathways

Students must meet one of the following criteria to be eligible for distinction:

Earn a score of 90% or higher in one approved category; or

Earn a combined score of 80% or higher across two approved categories; or

Earn a combined score of 70% or higher across three approved categories; or

Successfully complete an approved undergraduate thesis.

Approved Categories

Distinction activities must align with one or more of the following categories:

Community Engagement

Achievements

Scholarship

Student-Identified Successes

Portfolio Requirements

All distinction submissions must be completed through the designated Canvas portfolio system. Students are responsible for completing the required modules for each selected category. Each module will include detailed instructions and grading rubrics. Submissions must include:

Verifiable documentation or proof of each activity;

A written reflection that connects the activity to program Student Learning Outcomes

(SLOs);

Completion of all required components as outlined in the module.

Each category will be evaluated using a standardized rubric with a maximum of 30 points.

Submission Deadlines

Students must complete the final submission checklist (Canvas quiz) and submit all materials by the applicable deadline:

November 1 for December graduation

March 1 for May graduation

Review Process

All distinction portfolios will undergo a formal review process conducted by a committee of 3–5 BSHS faculty reviewers. Each application will be evaluated independently by two reviewers using the established rubric and will include qualitative feedback. Final determinations will be made by the review committee. The Department Chair will issue a formal notification letter to each applicant indicating the outcome of the distinction review process.

Professional and Ethical Conduct

The Department Chair of the Distinction Committee will verify the student is in good standing.

Academic Policies

University Policies

In addition to program-specific academic policies, all University academic & graduation policies apply. See the Butler University Student Handbook Academic Policies section (<https://www.butler.edu/student-life/student-handbook/academic/>) for detailed information on University academic probation, the course repeat policy, and other academic policies.

See also the policies outlined in the Butler Bulletin (<https://www.butler.edu/bulletin/>), especially those related to Graduation Requirements. Note that no less than 45 credit hours of coursework must be completed at (through) Butler to earn a Butler undergraduate degree, and at least 30 of these hours must be in the college granting the undergraduate degree. At least 40 hours of the total curriculum must be in courses numbered at the 300 level or above.

Satisfactory Academic Progress within the BSHS program

Satisfactory academic progress in the BSHS program is defined here:

Students in BSHS programs (Health Sciences and Healthcare & Business majors) are

considered in good standing if they have not been placed on University or professional probation.

Students must complete each semester with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater.

Students must complete all university graduation requirements (e.g., undergraduate core curriculum, including the Butler Cultural Requirement) in an organized, timely sequence.

Students must have satisfactory academic progress while on academic probation by meeting stipulations as defined by the Academic Progression Committee.

Reviews and actions related to BSHS students' academic standing, probation, dismissal, and sanctions are guided by the CHP Academic Progress Policy within the CHP Student Handbook.

BSHS Student Responsibilities

All BSHS students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner, be good university citizens, and act in accordance with federal & state laws, and the University student handbook (available at <https://www.butler.edu/student-life/student-handbook/>). All students are expected to do their part to make this a safe and welcoming environment.

Additionally, all BSHS students are expected to:

- Communicate and interact respectfully and effectively with peers, professors, and other members of Butler community.

- Ask questions and seek assistance as appropriate

- Respond to professors, advisors, and peers in a timely fashion

- Make and keep appointments

- Understand and appropriately utilize campus resources designed to improve student success, including but not limited to:

 - Your academic advisor within CHP

 - Pre-health advising services, if applicable to your career path

 - The Career and Professional Success Office (CaPS),

 - <https://www.butler.edu/internships-careers/>

 - Center for Academic Success & Exploration (CASE),

 - <https://www.butler.edu/academic-services/learning/>

 - Wellbeing resources such as Health Services, Counseling and Consultation

 - Services, Advocacy and Prevention Services (<https://www.butler.edu/well-being/>)

 - If appropriate, Student Disabilities Services (SDS,

 - <https://www.butler.edu/academic-services/disability/>) for long-term or the

 - Office of the Dean of Students for temporary disabilities.

- Explore and discern your optimal career path, and actively participate in professional development activities and opportunities provided

- Research and understand what optimal preparation should be for your individual career path (i.e., What skillsets & experiences are necessary, internships/jobs, prerequisite coursework, standardized test preparation, certifications, research,

etc.)

Network with professionals and connect with alumni

Personally track all professional development and experiential education activities

When applicable, understand how (mis)conduct could impact professional certifications, licensure, graduate school admission, and future employment

Complete program, course and instructor evaluations/surveys when asked, including the 6-month post-graduation survey

Report potentially unsafe situations to campus police.

Accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.