

Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Health and Medical Education
Deputy Ministry of Education

Health Economics

Master of Science (MSc)

Total Course Credits

- Core: 23
- Non-core (Elective): 5
- Thesis: 4

Program Description

The non-continuous master's degree in health economics is a course that analyzes the areas of production, consumption, and health policy-making. In developed countries, especially English-speaking countries, the term "Health Economics" mainly reflects this concept. In other words, health economics discusses the education and application of economic tools and concepts in various areas of health, and the health market, its developments, its main players, available resources and their limitations, and the needs and priorities of public health are on its agenda. In their analysis, it considers, like economic approaches, the optimization of resource use, the maximization of profit, the minimization of costs, and the provision of efficiency, justice, and quality. In short, health economics studies the production and consumption markets for health goods and services in the broad sense of the word, with regard to the scarcity of resources.

Admission Requirements

Candidates for admission to the master's degree program in health economics must meet the following conditions in addition to general qualifications:

- Possess a bachelor's degree in one of the fields of medicine, economics, economic sciences, management, health services management, accounting, sociology, social sciences, medical engineering, industrial engineering, as well as a general doctorate (medicine, pharmacy, dentistry), and a professional doctorate in veterinary medicine

Expected Competencies at the End of the Program

Expected general competencies include:

- Communication and consulting skills
- Teamwork skills
- Health system research, statistical analysis of health data
- Entrepreneurship, innovation and digital marketing

Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques*

- Educational Strategies
- Problem Based Learning



- Evidence Based Learning
- Project Based Learning
- Community Oriented Education
- Subject Based Education
- Integrated Education (Self-directed, interactive, and cooperative learning)

Student Assessment (Types and Methods)

Given that the field is a combination of theoretical and practical courses and fieldwork, it is suggested that the following methods be used to evaluate students, depending on the type of course and the professor's judgment:

- Types of written exams Multiple-choice exams Explanatory exams Simulated scenarios in the economic dimension of the health sector
- Oral exams and class presentations
- Performing practical work in the form of a thesis and applied projects and its results (Articles, Various reports), reports of carrying out practical work in the form of a thesis and applied projects and its results
- In order to evaluate students' professional ethics, the 360-degree evaluation method is also used, and given the spread of computers and virtual courses online and offline in the higher education system, electronic exams should also be used to evaluate students.
- Also, with the aim of continuous assessment throughout the course, the use of a portfolio, including log book evaluation, and the evaluation of all scientific, educational, research activities and professional behavior of the student since the beginning of the training course, such as regular participation in scientific meetings of the group, articles, encouragement, reminders and certificates of work done, etc., are strongly emphasized.

Frequency of assessment

- Continuous, periodic and final

Ethical Considerations

*Note: The related document(s) can be found at <http://hcmep.behdasht.gov.ir/>

Table of the Courses

Table 1. Compensatory Courses*

| Code | Title | Theoretical | | Practical | | Internship | | Total | | Prerequisite or Concurrent Courses |
|------|--|-------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|----------------|--------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | |
| 01 | Basic Micro and Macro Economics | 3 | 51 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 51 | - |
| 02 | Basic econometrics | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | - |
| 03 | Fundamentals of Health Economics | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | - |
| 04 | Preliminary research method in the health system | 2 | 34 | 1 | 34 | - | - | 3 | 68 | - |
| 05 | Introduction to the world's health systems | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | - |
| 06 | Specialized English in Health Economics | 2 | 34 | 1 | 34 | - | - | 3 | 68 | - |
| 07 | Medical information systems** | 0.5 | 9 | 0.5 | 17 | - | - | 1 | 26 | - |

*The student is required to take all or some of the deficiency or compensatory courses in Table A, as determined by the educational department and approved by the University's Graduate Education Council.

**Taking this course as a deficiency or compensatory course is mandatory for all students who have not previously taken this course.

Table 2. Core Courses

| Code | Title | Theoretical | | Practical | | Internship | | Total | | Prerequisite or Concurrent Courses |
|------|--|-------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|----------------|--------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | |
| 08 | Advanced Micro and Macro Economics | 3 | 51 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 51 | 01 |
| 09 | Health econometrics | 2 | 34 | 1 | 34 | - | - | 3 | 68 | 02 |
| 10 | Advanced Health Economics | 3 | 51 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 51 | 03 |
| 11 | Epidemiology | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | - |
| 12 | Health and Hospital Financial Management | 2 | 34 | 1 | 34 | - | - | 3 | 68 | - |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|----|--------|
| 13 | Economic evaluation in health care | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | 03, 10 |
| 14 | Financing and strategic purchasing in the health system | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | - |
| 15 | Drug policy and management | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | 03 |
| 16 | Seminar | - | - | 1 | 34 | - | - | 1 | 34 | - |
| 17 | Internship | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 | - | - |
| 18 | Thesis | 4 | | | | | | | | |

Table 3. Optional Courses*

| Code | Title | Theoretical | | Practical | | Internship | | Total | | Prerequisite or Concurrent Courses |
|------|---|-------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|----------------|--------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | Credit | Teaching hours | |
| 19 | Health Policy Analysis | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | 03 |
| 20 | Understanding healthcare pricing | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | - |
| 21 | Global Health Economics | 3 | 51 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 51 | 03, 05 |
| 22 | Systematic reviews and meta-analyses | 2 | 34 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 34 | 04 |
| 23 | Health service delivery system | 3 | 51 | - | - | - | - | 3 | 51 | 05 |
| 24 | Biostatistics | 2 | 34 | 1 | 34 | - | - | 3 | 68 | - |

*The student must take 5 credits from the courses in the table above, appropriate to the topic of the thesis, after approval from the supervisor.