Make a Difference...

discover
a Career in Healthcare Management!

American College of Healthcare Executives
for leaders who care®
What is a healthcare executive?

While medical personnel are the frontline of any healthcare organization, there are other healthcare professionals in whom patients invest their trust and hope—even though they’re not always aware of who these people are or the roles they play. These professionals are healthcare executives (also called healthcare administrators and healthcare managers). They are the men and women who manage today’s hospital and healthcare organizations.

HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVES...

- Ensure that their organizations have strong medical, operational, and financial footing to serve the needs of patients, their families, and the communities
- Are skilled, trained professionals, who care deeply about the quality of care patients receive. They partner with physicians, nurses, and other professionals to provide care
- Help in educating community members about important health issues
- Ensure that hospitals and other healthcare organizations serve as “safety nets” in their communities by providing emergency and ongoing care, as well as accurate and timely information about public threats in times of crisis

Do you:

- Enjoy solving problems?
- Like your work to be meaningful?
- Desire a career that is personally rewarding?
- Like to help people?
- Care about the health of individuals and communities?
- Want a job with excellent compensation and growth opportunities?

If so, a career as a healthcare executive may be right for you!
The healthcare management field offers a wide range of opportunities and challenges. Today, an estimated 100,000 people occupy health management positions at numerous organizational levels, from department head to chief executive officer. Positions for healthcare executives may be found in a variety of settings, such as:

- Clinics
- Consulting firms
- Health insurance organizations
- Healthcare associations
- Hospitals
- Nursing Homes
- Physician practices
- Mental health organizations
- Public health departments
- Rehabilitation centers
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Universities and research institutions

If you choose a career in healthcare management, your first job might be an entry-to mid-level management position in a specialized area, such as:

- Finance
- Government relations
- Human resources
- Information systems
- Marketing and public affairs
- Material management (purchasing of equipment and supplies)
- Medical staff relations
- Nursing administration
- Patient care services
- Planning and development
Begin planning as early as possible for a career in healthcare management. A good scholastic record is important—especially since you will want to attend a graduate program for a master’s degree or doctorate. Many careers in healthcare management require a master’s degree in health administration from a school accredited by the Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Service Administration. Beyond the educational requirements, to become a healthcare executive, you need certain abilities, which you can work to develop now, including:

- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to develop and present reports and proposals
- Ability to work well with others
- Honest and ethical business conduct
- Ability to train, delegate, evaluate, coordinate, and negotiate
- Leadership that inspires and motivates others
- Maturity to make decisions and take responsibility for them

Take the next step...

Find out if healthcare management is the right career choice for you.

- **Learn more about healthcare management careers.** Talk to professionals in the field, visit career planning Web sites, tour a nearby hospital or other healthcare facility, or participate in a healthcare-focused volunteer program.

- **Read about healthcare.** You can find interesting articles in local newspapers, national magazines such as *Newsweek* and *Time*, and trade publications such as *Healthcare Executive*, *Frontiers of Health Service Management*, *Journal of Healthcare Management*, or *Modern Healthcare*. Visit university libraries.

- **Investigate many educational programs.** Discuss your interest in a healthcare administration career with a guidance counselor and ask for help in identifying appropriate colleges. Check out both undergraduate and graduate programs as well as financing opportunities such as scholarships and financial aid. For information about financial aid call the Federal Student Financial Aid Information Center at (800) 433-3243.

To learn more about an exciting career in healthcare management, visit www.healthmanagementcareers.com