This degree program allows students to develop an in-depth and multidisciplinary understanding of obesity and combine it with their background in psychology, nursing, health and wellness, exercise and nutrition sciences, or other health-related fields to make an impact on prevention and management of obesity in work-site, health care, school and community settings.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Obesity Prevention and Management

The MS in obesity prevention and management is an innovative degree program that draws on a wide array of expertise at ASU. The curriculum is designed to integrate perspectives from the social, applied, life and health sciences and provides advanced, graduate-level, problem-focused, experiential training that is grounded in evidence and best practices for effective prevention and management of obesity.

This degree program is geared toward postbaccalaureate students and professionals who wish to advance their understanding of the social, cultural, environmental, health and psychological issues associated with obesity. The program emphasizes the complex etiology of obesity and includes courses that will enhance students' ability to work with individuals and populations at risk of obesity to develop effective strategies for prevention and management of the condition across the lifespan.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Health Solutions
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus

Degree Requirements
30 credit hours including a thesis, or
30 credit hours including an applied project (OBS 593)

**Required Core (3 credit hours)**
OBS 501 Obesity Prevention and Management: An Introduction (3)

**Electives (21 credit hours)**

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**
OBS 593 Applied Project (6) or
OBS 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Students choose one three-credit hour elective course from each of the following categories: concepts in behavior change, research methods and statistics.

Additional elective course selections will depend upon the student's chosen track. Students will select six credit hours from prescribed categories for each track and six credits from the following categories: cultural aspects of behavior change, general track, public health approaches for behavior change, and technological approaches for behavior change.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Health Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's (or equivalent) or master's degree in social or health science-related fields from a regionally accredited institution. The following entry-level competencies are needed for admission to the program: Students should have completed undergraduate-level courses in statistics and psychology and, ideally, have completed one or more courses in nutrition, physiology and chemistry.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GRE scores (verbal, quantitative and analytical)
4. statement of educational and career goals
5. writing sample
6. letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

Students who have an undergraduate GPA of 3.25 or higher in the last 60 hours of their undergrad program may have the GRE requirement waived with approval of the academic unit.

No foreign language examinations are required for admittance to the program.

Writing sample: A two- to three-page application letter is required in which applicants explain why they want to pursue this degree and why they feel well-prepared to succeed in this graduate program.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Contact Information**

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