

Graduate Certificate in Community-Based Aging Services

Admission

To be admitted into the graduate certificate in community-based aging services program, the applicant must:

- Be admitted to the Graduate School in a degree program or in nondegree status. All Graduate School policies relative to admissions apply. International students will not be issued an I-20 for certificate programs alone. They may obtain this certificate only while concurrently pursuing a graduate degree.¹
- A bachelor's degree of any discipline will be considered for admission.
- Have a minimum overall GPA of 2.750 (on a 4.000 scale) or a 2.750 in the last 60 credit hours of undergraduate coursework.
- Submit a personal goals essay of 250 words or less which clearly articulates the applicant's reason for seeking the graduate certificate.
- Submit a current resume.

Priority application deadlines: July 15 for fall admission; December 1 for spring admission.

¹ Online only students (including international students) may complete the certificate without concurrent enrollment in a WSU graduate degree program.

Program Requirements

The graduate certificate in community-based aging services is a fully online, 12-credit-hour program intended for those holding, or seeking, leadership positions in aging services, i.e., executive directors, program managers or development officers within organizations that serve older adults (e.g. Alzheimer's Associations, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), advocacy groups, and older adult housing). The curriculum provides an in-depth exploration of the strategic, financial and organizational skills needed to lead and drive meaningful change in the aging sector. This program meets the demand for well-rounded leaders prepared to serve in a growing industry.

Classes completed in pursuit of the certificate can be applied to the graduate program of study for the Master of Arts in aging studies (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/graduate/health-professions/health-sciences/public-health-sciences/ma-in-aging-studies-age/>) or the Master of Public Administration (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/graduate/fairmount-liberal-arts-sciences/public-affairs-hugo-wall/mpa-master-public-administration/>) program.

Courses started more than 10 years before the semester in which the master's degree work is completed may not be used as part of the degree program. The total number of credit hours required for the certificate is 12, with a cumulative grade point average of 3.000 or above and no grade that generates less than 2.000 credit points per credit hour.

The certificate can be completed within one year. Courses include:

Course	Title	Hours
Required Courses (9 credit hours)		
FA 760	Introduction to Adaptive Leadership	3
PADM 870	Fundraising and Financial Management for Nonprofit Organizations	3
PADM 873	Strategic Planning in Public and Nonprofit Organizations	3

or PHS 617	Community Health Methods
Elective Courses (3 credit hours)	
Select one of the following	3
PHS 543	Aging and Public Policy
PHS 560	Care Networks and Services
PHS 626	Hospitality and Enrichment in Aging Communities
PHS 710	Perspectives on an Aging Society
Total Credit Hours	12

In addition to the above requirements, students must meet the Graduate School's requirements (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/graduate/academic-information/types-programs-courses/certificate-residency-badge-programs/>) in order to earn this certificate.