

Master of Science in Clinical Research



Program Highlights

- The program covers all aspects of clinical research, including designing research studies, good clinical practice, actively managing patient-based research, biostatistics and data analysis, as well as regulatory and compliance issues.
- The program requires 32 credits of course work: 22 required credits, including a practicum and capstone project, and 10 elective credits.
- Courses are offered through Graduate Medical Sciences and delivered at Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine.
- Students can choose practicum experiences (a minimum of 240 hours of hands-on, field-based learning) from a broad range of academic and industry settings.
- Coursework emphasizes practical, applied learning. Faculty, all of whom are active practitioners in the field, share real-world case histories, and there is a significant amount of group work, modeling the collaborative nature of clinical research.
- Full-time students have the opportunity to complete the program in one academic year, including summer. Part-time students have up to five years to complete the components required for the degree.
- The degree is awarded by Graduate Medical Sciences at Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine.

Program Overview

The Master of Science in Clinical Research trains individuals to fill the increasing demand for professionals at academic institutions and in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and medical device industries who are performing research with human subjects.

Graduates are well prepared to develop study protocols, work directly with subjects, interpret data and train and educate others in the field. Program graduates are qualified to sit for several of the clinical research certification exams offered by the Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) and the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA).

Our Mission

Inspire, Instruct, Innovate... The MS in Clinical Research program is dedicated to the discovery, development and application of knowledge as it pertains to all areas of clinical research. Our mission is to foster an engaging and effective educational environment that promotes the pursuit of outstanding teaching and learning through formal classroom and practical training. With established collaborative relationships with pharmaceutical, biotech, and academic institutions, students are provided with unique opportunities to pursue clinical research in areas that are of personal and professional interest.

Curriculum

Required Courses

| Course Title | Credits |
|--|-----------|
| Management of Clinical Trials | 4 credits |
| Regulatory and Compliance Issues | 4 credits |
| Biostatistics with Computing | 4 credits |
| Designing Clinical Research Studies | 4 credits |
| Seminar in Clinical Research | 2 credits |
| Capstone Research in Clinical Research | 2 credits |
| Practicum in Clinical Research | 2 credits |

Elective Courses

| Course Title | Credits |
|--|-----------|
| Good Clinical Practices in Clinical Research | 4 credits |
| Ethical Issues in Clinical Research | 2 credits |

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|--|-----------|
| Applied Regression Analysis with Computing | 3 credits |
| Professionalism and Scientific Writing | 2 credits |
| Directed Studies in Clinical Research | 2 credits |
| Bench to Bedside: Translating Biomedical Innovation from Laboratory to the Marketplace | 2 credits |
| Molecules to Molecular Therapeutics | 4 credits |
| Introduction to Medical Pharmacology | 4 credits |
| Advanced General Pharmacology | 2 credits |
| Drug Discovery and Development | 2 credits |
| Introduction to Epidemiology | 3 credits |
| Topics in Biostatistics | 4 credits |
| The Biotechnology Industry | 4 credits |

Students may also choose from a wide variety of related elective courses offered through Graduate Medical Sciences. Students may also choose one elective course from outside of GMS.

Tuition, Financial Aid and Student Resources

For up-to-date information on tuition and fees, visit <https://www.bumc.bu.edu/gms/admissions/student-financial-services/>.

The Financial Aid Office at Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine is available to assist students identifying sources of financial support, including subsidized and unsubsidized student loans. A limited number of scholarships are awarded each year to highly qualified students.

The BU Office of Housing Resources provides information regarding housing, transportation, and Boston neighborhoods. For more details, visit www.bumc.bu.edu/ohr.

Admissions Criteria

Applicants for admission to the MS in Clinical Research should:

- Meet the requirements for a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution -- an undergraduate degree with an academic background that includes science courses is recommended, with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
- Submit the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Duolingo scores if native language is not English and prior instruction was not in English.

The Clinical Research program no longer requires GRE or MCAT scores.

Application Deadline

We offer rolling admissions and review applications throughout the year. However, it is recommended that you submit your application by January 5th for priority admission.

Application Requirements

A completed application consists of the application, a personal statement, three letters of recommendation, a CV/resume, and official transcripts for all colleges and universities attended.

To apply to the program, please visit bu.edu/gms/admissions.

Interested in Sampling the Program?

Prospective students wishing to sample the program by completing one to two courses as a non-degree student are still required to complete the standard application.

Program Options

- Part-time/ Full-time option
- MS Medical Sciences/ MS in Clinical Research (MSMS/MSCR dual degree)
- Doctor of Medicine/ MS in Clinical Research (MD/MSCR dual degree)
- Online Graduate Certificate Program

Contact

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