

## Austin Peay State University

### Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA)

#### MHA 5900: Integrative Learning Experience: **Industry Partner Prospectus**

The primary purpose of MHA 5900: Integrative Learning Experience is to expose current MHA students to an industry problem, challenge, opportunity, project, or research objective with the expectation that they will work, exclusively, on that selected project with an identified industry partner. While at the same time, providing industry partners with access to a motivated student consultant to spend time and energy on a project or issue the industry partner may otherwise not have time to investigate. It should be mutually beneficial. If helpful, industry partners could approach MHA 5900 as a limited internship experience, and provide multiple mini-projects for the student for a wider array of exposure. Industry partners should consider these guidelines while determining the feasibility of accepting a student consultant/intern:

- The work done by the MHA student consultant must not supplant any current (or potential) paid employee's responsibility.
- The work done must be time-bound. Even if the project itself is on-going, the work done by the MHA student consultant must have a distinct end-date with a specific outcome/deliverable from the student identified ahead of time.
- If student consultants' select their current employer as their industry partner, clear expectations and delineations of duties must be specified and agreed upon. This should be a project somewhat outside of typical responsibilities and/or something additive to their work. Also, the time bound nature of the project must be particularly clear. Students using current employers as their industry partner should not find themselves with additional, unpaid duties, at the conclusion of the course.
- The project/problem based experience should be related to typical projects/work in the healthcare arena.
- Student consultants are receiving 3 credit hours for this work which, for a typical Master level course, equates to 15-20 hours of work/week. While the time on task does not necessarily need to be distributed evenly over each week (i.e. some weeks may require more time than others) the general sense should be this is not the equivalent of a full time job, but instead, a defined project in appropriate scope.

#### Process:

- Healthcare organizations interested in hosting an MHA student for a specific problem, project or mini internship opportunity should contact Dr. Blake Hendrickson at [Hendricksona@apsu.edu](mailto:Hendricksona@apsu.edu) with a completed application (below).
- Projects should not begin before June 1 in any given summer with the project completed by July 31 in that same summer.
- Ideally, student consultants will meet with selected Industry Partners and complete the application (below) together. At the very least, there should be a discussion about the project and the student consultant's learning goals.

## Industry Partner Application

Name of organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location (city/state): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of the organization (e.g.: mission and purpose, types of services offered, types of patients served, non-profit/for-profit/government, scope and size).

Description of the proposed project (note: there will be room for adjustments once a MHA student(s) is/are partnered for this project). In your description please be sure to include:

- The general scope of the proposed experience and what the anticipated deliverable will be.
- What the student will actually be doing, who they will be potentially working with, if there is a specific population, a general sense of the project itself.
- Resources, support, and working environment the student consultant can expect to be provided.
- General characteristics/experiences/interests you are looking for in a student consultant (e.g. human resources, financial/accounting, research, community outreach, program planning, marketing, market research).
- Any additional information that will assist in proposal selection and solid match of student consultant.
- When appropriate, indicate if any and how much of the work can be done remotely. Many student consultants work full time; flexibility in work schedule and location is appreciated when possible.