

## **PhD Health Services Research (HSR) Admissions Checklist**

**Program Prerequisite** Master's degree in a related field (e.g., public health, public administration and policy, health care administration, sociology, economics, or biostatistics) or an advanced clinical practice degree (e.g., PharmD, MD, PA, or NP degree). A minimum cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 is required.

- Online Application**
  - Visit [SOPHAS.org](https://sophas.org) and select "Apply"
  - **Fee Waivers** - SOPHAS offers a [Fee Assistance Program](#) to qualified applicants on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 617-612-2090 to learn more.
- Graduate Entrance Exams – Not Required**
- Official Transcripts**
  - Submit official transcripts from all previously attended undergraduate and graduate institutions directly through SOPHAS.
- Evaluations/Recommendations: A minimum of three (3) recommendations are I**
  - Enter contact information for your recommenders - at least three (3) contacts are required.
  - Recommenders will be prompted to complete an electronic evaluation and submit a recommendation letter.
  - We recommend that at least one (1) of the evaluations be from a faculty member who taught or supervised the applicant. In some cases, however, we understand that it is not possible.
- Professional Resume/CV**
  - Highlight professional experience, academic accomplishments, publications, and other areas that will showcase your overall competitiveness for the PhD HSR program.
- Personal Statement (highlight the following)**
  - Your Interest in public health, health services research, and the University of Kentucky;
  - Career goals;
  - Proposed research topics.
- Writing Sample (250 words or less)**
  - Identify what you believe is the most critical public health challenge facing the United States and the role that you foresee playing in Health Services Research. This requirement can be replaced with a relevant public health publication or scientific project. You must be identified as a primary contributor.
- International Applicants**
  - **Foreign Transcripts:** Must be evaluated by the World Education Services ([WES.org](https://wes.org)) and submitted directly to SOPHAS.
  - **English Language Proficiency:** All applicants whose native language is not English must report one of the following scores on the application: **TOELF, IELTS, or DuoLingo**. Admission decisions may be based on unofficial scores but official scores are required before enrollment in fall courses. Otherwise, admission may be revoked.
    - Minimum Score Required: [TOEFL](#) 79, [IELTS](#) 6.5, [DuoLingo](#) 115
    - Learn more at <https://gradschool.uky.edu/application-process#Test%20Scores>.

### **Application Deadlines**

- ★ SOPHAS application deadline for all applicants: **February 1, 2025**
- ★ If admitted, secondary UK Graduate School application for enrollment deadline:
  - International – April 15, 2025
  - Domestic – No later than one month before the start of the fall 2025 term

**Direct all questions or inquiries to [ukcph@uky.edu](mailto:ukcph@uky.edu).**