

# Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Graduate Programs – Admissions Information for the **PhD in Health Science Informatics (HSI)**

## **Biomedical Informatics and Data Science section Overview:**

There are five programs in Health Sciences Informatics (HSI).

1. HSI: Clinical Informatics (Online Certificate)
2. HSI: Applied Health Sciences Informatics (Online MS)
3. HSI: Applied Health Sciences Informatics (MS)
4. HSI: Health Sciences Informatics (MS, Research focus)
5. **HSI: Health Sciences Informatics (PhD) – The instructions below are for the PhD program.**

## **Program Details:**

The PhD in Health Sciences Informatics is offered on campus only. Students in this program work on the East Baltimore campus. In this program, students complete the on-campus MS curriculum, then spend an average of five to seven years on their research project.

Students in this program are paid a stipend to support their living expenses (see Costs of Attendance here <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/som/offices/finaid/cost/>). Tuition costs for SOM courses are covered by the School for students in this Program (i.e., not paid by the student). The Section will also cover the annual costs of the student's mandatory health, vision, and dental insurance, and Health service fee. Benefits for the student's immediate family are available at additional cost to the student. Student stipends are subject to taxes. Students from Maryland with student loans may receive State tax benefits. More information is available here on the [Financial Aid page](#). The University does not provide housing, though the [housing office](#) will provide advice.

## **Program Admissions Requirements:**

To apply to this program, applicants meet one of these three qualifications:

- The applicant should have a previous master's or health-professional degree from an accredited college or university.
- The applicant should have an undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university in a field relevant to Health IT, plus 5 years of experience in a field relevant to health IT. While experience in health IT itself is a higher priority, consideration will be given to experience in IT or related fields, other than health.
- The applicant should have an undergraduate degree in a field relevant to Health IT from an accredited college or university and 1 year of experience in a field relevant to Health IT. While experience in health IT itself is a higher priority, consideration will be given to experience in IT or related fields, other than health.

## **Program Details:**

The application for this program is open from September 1<sup>st</sup> to December 15th. In the time before the application is open, applicants may log in and begin their applications. The application can only be submitted in the period when the application is open.

## **Academic History & Prior Research Experience:**

Applicants will need to list all colleges and universities they attended. A transcript will need to be uploaded from each school attended. Applicants with prior research experience share information about this including the institution and mentor, dates of participation, and any publications resulting from the experience.

**Admissions requirements:**

- Applicants must submit a Curriculum Vitae (C.V.). This can be updated after the application is submitted, as long as the updates are before the graduate program’s deadline.
- Applicants must submit a one page personal statement indicating the basis of their interest in graduate study and their career objectives. Applicants should include a discussion of any research experience they have had.
- Applicants must identify **three** people who are familiar with the applicant’s work and provide contact info for these references. The contact info will be entered into the application, and SOM will contact the references and ask them to submit letters of recommendation on behalf of the applicant.

**International Students:**

- The University will sponsor visas for accepted students.
- International students whose native language is not English are required to complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS). When taking the exam, applicants should request official scores be reported to Institution Code 5316 (the Department Code is not necessary). To report official IELTS test scores, please include the Test Report Form (TRF) verification number on the application. Scores must be received before the application deadline.
- The TOEFL requirement will be waived if the applicant has completed their degree in a U.S. institution, or is currently enrolled and will receive a degree from a university within the U.S. prior to matriculation at JHU-SOM.
- All transcripts, letters of recommendation, and parts of the Admissions application must be in English. The approved transcript service for use by international students is WES.
- International students are not eligible for waivers of the Admissions Application fees.

**Getting to know you:**

- Parts of the Admissions application collect information for mandatory reporting. These parts may ask applicants to select a pre-set category for gender, race or ethnicity. Other sections of the application allow applicants to share more details about how they choose to describe themselves.
- Application Fee waivers may be given to applicants based on family income (U.S. citizens only). The term *family* is determined by your definition. Families may involve adoptions, separations, and many other variations.

**Admissions fees:**

- An admissions fee of \$115 dollars is required and must be submitted using a credit card. Applicants who meet eligibility requirements may apply to multiple Health Sciences Informatics programs. There will not be any additional charge or application fees for reviews by other HSI programs.
- For a complete description of the fee waiver process, please see the Application Fees and Fee Waiver Instructions on the On-Campus Admission website. Fee waivers are only available for U.S. citizens.

**Admission timeline:**

- Review of applications will begin immediately after the application deadline. The Biomedical Informatics and Data Science section will begin reviewing applications when they are received, so submitting your application before the deadline may be helpful.
- The Biomedical Informatics and Data Science section will contact competitive applicants about interviews beginning in January. Interviews are usually conducted over Zoom (or similar services).
- Letters describing acceptance, wait list status, or rejection will be sent by email. This information will also be available on the Application status website. Applicants selected for acceptance must choose to accept or reject the offer by April 15. On April 15, all accepted offers become binding.
- Orientation will be held in late August. Students will begin their training at this time.

**Applicant survey:**

- Applicants will receive a survey during the third week of April (after April 15) where they can provide feedback about their experience with the Admissions process. The survey will also ask questions about disability status of applicants.

**Application status website:**

- Once their application is submitted, applicant may follow its progress on the Application Status page. This page can be accessed upon completion of the application. The status page has the most current information.

**Upon acceptance:**

- Accepted students will undergo a criminal background check.
- Accepted students must submit official transcripts to the School of Medicine Registrar. This may be in the form of a digital transcript, which is submitted through a transcript service approved by the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Registrar. The approved transcript service for international students is WES. Transcripts may also be mailed directly from the Accepted student's school to the School of Medicine Registrar. Detailed instructions will be provided upon acceptance.

**Communicating with the program:**

- HSI contact: [JHInformatics@jhu.edu](mailto:JHInformatics@jhu.edu)
- General questions: [GradAdmissions@jhmi.edu](mailto:GradAdmissions@jhmi.edu)
- For more info, please see the Program website: <http://dhsi.med.jhmi.edu/content/master-science-applied-health-sciences-informatics-online-program>