Health Sciences Degree Program

Destination Information for the BHS in Health Sciences graduates:
Academic Year June 2014 - May 2015

Post Graduate Plans

- 68% Employment
- 24% Graduate/Professional School
- 8% Still Seeking

n=337*

Graduate or Professional Programs

Top 5 Programs Pursued
- Physical Therapy
- Accelerated Nursing
- Occupational Therapy
- Health Care Administration
- Physician Assistant

Top 5 Universities Chosen
- University of Missouri
- Washington University
- University of Missouri St. Louis
- University of Missouri Kansas City
- Saint Louis University

Careers

Top Trend: More students are going into health product sales careers.

Top 5 Employers
- Cerner
- University of Missouri
- State of Missouri
- MU Health
- PhysAssist/ScribeAmerica

Top 5 Employers/Industries
- Health Care
- Information Technology
- Education
- Sales
- Social Services

Average Starting Salary

$43,000

90% Plan to stay in Missouri for Graduate School

School of Health Professions
University of Missouri Health

106 Lewis Hall, Columbia, Missouri 65211
Phone: 573-882-8011   Email: shpcareer@missouri.edu

*Knowledge Rate calculated using self-reported student surveys, LinkedIn and other data collection tools.
Sometime in her junior year, Sarah Billingsly had an “a-ha” moment. “I realized that everything I was working so hard for wasn’t what I was passionate about,” she recalls. Though she had always been sure what she would study in college and what she would pursue as a career, it wasn’t her classes, but her service work, that brought her passion to light. Working with SHAPE (Sexual Health Advocate Peer Education) and the RSVP (Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention) Center at Mizzou helped her develop an understanding and appreciation for the field of public health. She shifted her focus, and a new future was born.

In March, Sarah will go to Senegal for a 27-month term of service in the Peace Corps. Her trip will begin with nearly three months of intensive training, and she’ll then be placed in a community and given an assignment that will last two years. While she doesn’t know yet what her role will be, volunteers in Senegal are focused on the needs of rural communities, including education and public health. Health issues in Senegal include malaria, water and hygiene, and maternal and child health.

When she returns from Africa, Sarah plans to pursue a Master of Public Health and/or Master of Social Work degree, but the biggest lesson she learned as an undergraduate will guide her future decisions too: she’s keeping her options open. “I’m looking forward to the Peace Corps experience, and I’m looking forward to a graduate program that will help me discover where my passion and skills intersect,” she said.

Sarah said she’s leaving SHP with the confidence that she has the education and skills she needs to achieve whatever career goals she sets for herself. “I know I’m 100% prepared to apply for programs, and thrive once I’m accepted.” Her advice to future SHP students is to embrace change and be open to new experiences – even if they’re sure they have a plan already. “People grow the most when they step out of their comfort zones and try new things,” Sarah said. “In SHP I was confident in taking those kinds of risks because I knew that no matter what I chose I would have support and resources. As big as it is, SHP was like family for me that way.”

Cedric Harris knew he wanted to work after graduation. What he didn’t know was how to identify all his options, and the best ways to pursue them. Enter, SHP Career Services. Cedric’s adviser suggested he meet with Career Services to help determine his next steps. That visit paid off in a hurry. “They reviewed my resume with me, and walked me through searching for jobs on HireMizzouTigers.com,” he said. “I saw a company based in Dallas that was interviewing on campus, so I gave it a shot and applied.”

When he landed an interview with that company, he called on Career Services again – this time for a mock interview. “We ran him through the whole interview process, asking typical interview questions and helping him think through responses,” said Meredith Shaw, Director of SHP Career Services. “It was so helpful,” Cedric said. “The interview went well and they offered me a position to start in June!”

This spring, Cedric will move to Dallas to get ready for his new position, Health Pro Analyst at Compass Professional Health Services. In his position, he’ll be responsible for helping corporate employees navigate their health plans to choose the best options for them and get the best health care possible. He will have opportunities for travel and room for advancement, making this an ideal opportunity to experience the health care industry from the inside, which he hopes will give him an advantage when it comes to applying to graduate school. “Learning about the business of health care in a classroom is one thing, but I’m excited to get real world experience too,” Cedric said.

Eventually Cedric will apply to graduate school. He wants to pursue an MHA, and then a career focused on health care quality. His advice to future SHP students is to be open to more than one pathway to your goals. “Sometimes opportunities come from places you don’t expect.”