Western Michigan University
Board of Trustees
October 29, 2026

PROPOSAL: Create the Graduate Certificate in Health Administration

Background

The Graduate Studies Council of the Faculty Senate has approved the creation of the Graduate Certificate in Health Administration offered by the School of Interdisciplinary Health Programs in the College of Health and Human Services.

The Graduate Certificate in Health Administration offers a short, stackable pathway for individuals seeking practical leadership and administrative skills for healthcare settings. It provides an accessible option for current graduate students and working professionals who want to advance without committing immediately to a full graduate degree. The curriculum emphasizes applied learning and prepares students to navigate organizational challenges commonly encountered in healthcare environments. Guidance from the Health Administration Advisory Board further supports the need for this program. Advisory Board members highlighted change management leadership, continuous improvement skills, and the ability to interpret and act on data as essential competencies in their organizations. The certificate directly addresses these needs and supports the university's role in preparing a capable healthcare workforce.

Recommended Action

Create the Graduate Certificate in Health Administration.