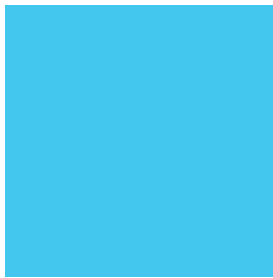


2026-2027 Student Handbook

Department of Clinical & Diagnostic Sciences

MS in Health Physics



UAB
The University of
Alabama at Birmingham.
School of Health Professions

UAB SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL AND DIAGNOSTIC SCIENCES
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH PHYSICS
2026-2027 ACADEMIC HANDBOOK



Emily Caffrey, PhD, CHP
Program Director

08/21/2026

Date



Floyd Josephat, EdD, MLS (ASCP), AHI(AMT)
Interim Department Chair

08/21/2026

Date



Mark Merrick, PhD, AT, ATC, FNATA, FNAP, FASAHP
Dean
School of Health Professions

08/24/2026

Date

Table of Contents

introduction	5
Dean's Welcome Message	5
Overview of the School of Health Professions	5
Important Information You Should Know	6
Section 1 – School and University Information	7
Academic Calendar	7
Academic Integrity Code	7
Advising	7
Ambassadors	7
AskIT	7
Attendance	7
BlazerID / BlazerNET / Email	8
Blazer Express	9
Bookstore	9
Campus OneCard	9
Campus Map	9
Campus Safety	9
Canvas Learning Management System	9
Catalog	10
Community Standards and Accountability	10
Counseling Services	10
Disability Support Services (DSS)	10
Emergencies	10
Nondiscrimination Statement:	11
FERPA Training	11
Financial Aid	11
Food Services	12
Graduate School	12
Graduation	12
Health Insurance	12
HIPAA Training	12
Honor Societies	12
Immunization Policy	13
Institutional Review Board for Human Use (IRB)	13
Intellectual Property	13
Lactation Centers	13
Libraries and Learning Resource Center	13
UAB Student Conduct Code	14
One Stop Student Services	14
Parking	14
Plagiarism and TurnItIn	14
Recreation Center	15

School of Health Professions Awards.....	15
School of Health Professions Scholarships.....	15
School of Health Professions Shared Values	15
Social Media	16
Student Health Services	16
Title IX.....	16
Tuition and Fees	16
Weather.....	16
Withdrawal from Course / Program.....	16
Section 2 – SHP and UAB Policies	18
School of Health Professions Policies.....	18
Accidents / Injuries Occurring on Campus:	22
Undergraduate and Graduate Volunteer Research:	22
UAB Policies.....	23
Section 3: Program Specific Information	24
MS in Health Physics Program Overview	24
Introduction.....	24
Mission, Vision and Values.....	24
Faculty and Staff	24
Accreditation	24
Student Learning Outcomes.....	24
Educational Objectives	25
Certification Exam	25
Admissions & Enrollment Requirements	25
Deferral Policies.....	26
Transfer Credit Policies.....	26
Continuous Enrollment Requirements.....	26
Leave of Absence, Re-Entry & Withdrawal Procedures	26
Degree Requirements.....	26
Credit Hours.....	26
Recommended Curriculum Outline.....	26
Supervised Practice Requirement	27
Plan I vs Plan II Options	28
Thesis – Plan I	29
Capstone Projects – Plan II	31
Selecting a Research Topic	33
Literature Review	33
Library Resources	34
Academic Integrity Code	34
Committee and Roles	34
Statistics.....	35
Institutional Review Board (IRB) / Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)	36
Project Proposal	36

Implementation.....	36
Data Storage	37
Manuscript and Formatting	37
Writing Skills	38
Outcomes	38
Submitting the Final Product.....	38
Advising & Mentoring.....	39
Advisor/Mentor Assignment Process.....	39
Expectations for faculty mentors and students	39
Policies & Standards.....	40
Program Policies	40
Expectations Regarding Academic Progress	41
Grade Policies and Academic Probation & Dismissal Procedures	41
Professionalism Expectations.....	41
Lab & Fieldwork Safety Requirements	42
Training & Facility Access	42
Funding & Financial Information	42
Professional & Student Organizations	42

INTRODUCTION

DEAN'S WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome to the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Health Professions where you are joining a legacy of excellence!

We are one of the six schools comprising the renowned UAB Academic Health Center. We offer more than 30 programs and 40 offerings at the certificate, baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. And we are home to nearly 3,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

You came here for an outstanding education, and we provide exactly that. However, **only you** can control whether you will become an excellent professional. To do so, you must challenge yourself every day and take advantage of all our vast resources, state-of-the-art facilities and research opportunities during your academic and clinical education. You also need to make the most of your access to the world-class faculty who are here to teach and support your journey. You didn't enroll here to be to be an amateur. You came to become a professional, and not an average one. I encourage you to become a "Pro" and an excellent one at that. Own it, live it, excel at what you do, and make both us and yourself proud.

I look forward to seeing you grow in your respective fields and watching you become the leader we know you can be.

Go Blazers!

Mark Merrick, Ph.D., AT, ATC, FNATA, FNAP, FASAHP
Dean, UAB School of Health Professions

OVERVIEW OF THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The UAB School of Health Professions (SHP) is one of the largest academic institutions of its type in the United States. What began in the 1950s as a collection of training programs in various para-professional disciplines has grown into an internationally recognized center of academic and research excellence.

Today, we have five academic departments – Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, Health Services Administration, Nutrition Sciences, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy – that are housed in four buildings: Susan Mott Webb Nutrition Sciences Building (WEBB), Learning Resource Center (LRC), the School of Health Professions Building (SHPB), and the Center for Biophysical Sciences and Engineering (CBSE).

We are proud of many accomplishments including:

- *U.S. News & World Report* ranks all eligible SHP programs in the nation's top 25.
- Research funding is at an all-time high of \$26+ million and growing.
- Nearly 10 of our programs you will only find in Alabama at UAB.

- Our school has never been stronger or better positioned as a national leader in health professions education. And this status will only grow stronger as we continue to welcome students like you.

DISCLAIMER

This Handbook is an overview of general academic regulations specific to SOHP programs at UAB. Although UAB will make its best efforts to abide by this handbook, UAB reserves the right to interpret and apply its procedures and policies, and to deviate from these guidelines, as appropriate in the particular circumstances and in accordance with the mission and goals of the program. UAB also reserves the right to address issues not covered in this handbook and to make changes to the policy without advance notice. Changes become effective at the time the proper authorities determine so and the changes apply to both prospective students and those already enrolled. Please refer to our website for the most up-to-date version.

All students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the general University rules and regulations pertaining to studying at UAB and the specific academic requirements of their particular degree program. This Handbook is not intended to nor does it contain all policies or regulations applicable to students. Each student is responsible for familiarizing him/herself with the contents of this Handbook. Although the policies contained herein are intended to reflect current rules and policies of the University, users are cautioned that changes or additions may have become effective since the publication of this material. In the event of a conflict, current statements of Board policy contained in the Bylaws, Rules, official minutes, and other pronouncements of the Board or Chancellor, or superseding law, shall prevail.

This Handbook does not constitute a contract and may not be deemed or construed as part of any contract between UAB and any student or student representative.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW

Although UAB works hard to prepare students for future careers in their desired fields, employment and salaries are not guaranteed. Employment outcomes depend on a student's efforts and market conditions. Students are responsible for understanding their financial responsibilities. [Tuition costs can be found on this UAB website](#). Scholarships are competitive and not guaranteed. Admission to other graduate or professional programs is also not guaranteed. Advisors will provide students with guidance, but students are ultimately responsible for degree completion, and timelines for completion may vary based on individual circumstances.

SECTION 1 – SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

All dates related to registration, payments of tuition and fees, drop/add dates, other administrative requirements, and official school holidays are recorded on the [UAB Academic Calendar](#).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CODE

The University established a new Academic Integrity Code effective August 23, 2021. This Code, which applies to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students as well as all academic activities, defines academic misconduct and outlines procedures for breaches of the code. The Academic Integrity Code process is managed by the Academic Integrity Coordinator (AIC). In the School of Health Professions, the AIC is the Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs, and the office is located in SHPB 660. [You can see the full text of the Academic Integrity Code online.](#)

ADVISING

Undergraduate student advising is provided through advisors assigned to each program as well as through the Office of Student Services. Advisor and recruiter contact information can be found on the [Office of Student Services Website](#). Graduate student advising is provided through the SHP graduate programs.

AMBASSADORS

Ambassadors help to spread awareness of the School of Health Professions and its multifaceted undergraduate and graduate programs, serve as liaisons between the department and university-wide student organizations, and serve as a student voice in school and university committees. The SHP Ambassadors help to support the programs within the school that will impact recruitment and retention initiatives. [You can learn more about the SHP Ambassadors on their webpage.](#)

AskIT

AskIT is the technology help desk for faculty, staff, and students. You will be asked to supply your BlazerID when you request assistance. Contact them by phone at 205-996-5555 or [via email](#) or [visit the AskIT service portal online](#).

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is expected in all SHP programs. Specific class, laboratory, or clinical site attendance requirements may be more stringent than university guidelines. Refer to the program requirements in this handbook and in course syllabi for policies. The UAB attendance policy is as follows:

The University of Alabama at Birmingham recognizes that the academic success of individual students is related to their class attendance and participation. Each course instructor is responsible for establishing policies concerning class attendance and make-up opportunities. Any such policies, including points for attendance and/or participation, penalties for absences, limits on excused absences, total allowable absences, etc., must be specified in the course syllabus provided to students at the beginning of the course term. Such policies are subject to departmental oversight and may not, by their specific prescriptions, negate or circumvent the accommodations provided below for excused absences.

The University regards certain absences as excused and in those instances requires that instructors provide a reasonable accommodation for the student who misses assignments, presentations, examinations, or other academic work of a substantive nature by virtue of these excused absences. Examples include the following:

- Absences due to jury or military duty, provided that official documentation has been provided to the instructor in a timely manner in advance.
- Absences for students who have approved disability-related absence accommodations through Disability Support Services may follow the reasonable number of absences outlined in their flex plan or as determined by the instructor. Students are responsible for notifying instructors of these and any other approved accommodations through their Notice of Accommodations letter.
- Absences due to participation in university-sponsored activities when the student is representing the University in an official capacity and as a critical participant, provided that the procedures below have been followed:
 - Before the end of the add/drop period, students must provide their instructor a schedule of anticipated excused absences in or with a letter explaining the nature of the expected absences from the director of the unit or department sponsoring the activity.
 - If a change in the schedule occurs, students are responsible for providing their instructors with advance written notification from the sponsoring unit or department.
- Absences due to other extenuating circumstances that instructors deem excused. Such classification is at the discretion of the instructor and is predicated upon consistent treatment of all students.
- Absences due to religious observances provided that students give faculty written notice prior to the drop/add deadline of the term.

In these instances, instructors must give students the opportunity to complete assignments in a way that corresponds as much as possible to the nature, scope, and format of the original. Options may include making up exams or other assignments, rescheduling student classroom presentations, or arranging for early or late submission of written assignments. The course make-up policy should be included in the syllabus.

BLAZERID / BLAZERNET / EMAIL

BLAZERID

All students receive a unique identifier, the BlazerID, established at [BlazerID Central](#). Your BlazerID is required for accessing BlazerNET and other campus resources. To activate one's BlazerID, select "Activate Accounts."

BLAZERNET

[BlazerNet](#) is the official portal of the UAB information network and is accessible from any Internet-accessible computer, on- or off-campus.

EMAIL

UAB student email is provided through Microsoft Office 365, a cloud-based system. Students have 50 GB of email space and 25 GB of free file 1 TB storage. The UAB email is the official communication medium for courses, news, information, and announcements. Students should not forward their UAB account to a personal email account. UAB is not responsible for information not received by the student due to the 'redirecting' of a UAB account to another email server.

BLAZER EXPRESS

The UAB Blazer Express Transit System provides transportation throughout the UAB campus. With a valid UAB ID badge, students can enjoy fare-free bus transportation. All buses are ADA-accessible and can seat approximately 35 riders. For an updated schedule, route maps, and hours of operation please [visit the Blazer Express website](#).

BOOKSTORE

There is one bookstore located on the UAB campus in the Hill Student Center. It offers a wide variety of products and services to students, including online purchasing and shipping. The bookstore stocks UAB memorabilia and college wear in addition to all required textbooks and course material. Visit [the UAB Barnes and Noble Bookstore online](#) for more details.

CAMPUS ONECARD

The UAB OneCard is the official university identification card. It is used for personal identification, for entry to campus events and the recreation center, for library checkout, and for other UAB services. It also serves as a declining balance card for the UAB meal plans and for Blazer Bucks accounts. Additional information is available on the [UAB OneCard website](#).

CAMPUS MAP

[UAB's campus map can be found online](#).

CAMPUS SAFETY

[Campus safety procedures and resources can be accessed online](#).

CANVAS LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Canvas Learning Management System is the platform used for managing instructional materials online. Canvas course sites are accessed through BlazerNET or at the [UAB Center for Teaching and Learning website](#). Students should monitor their course sites routinely for communication from faculty and to manage course assignments.

CATALOG

The UAB Catalog is published annually and includes UAB's courses, policies, and curricula. Students can [find the Undergraduate or Graduate catalog online](#).

COMMUNITY STANDARDS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

[Community Standards and Accountability](#) is responsible for upholding the integrity and purpose of the University through the fair and consistent application of policies and procedures to students' behavior to ensure a community that respects the dignity and right of all persons to reach their highest potential. UAB Student Advocacy, Rights & Conduct (SARC) delivers programs and services in order to promote student safety and success, the pursuit of knowledge, respect for self and others, global citizenship, personal accountability and integrity, and ethical development. More information can be found at the [UAB SARC website](#). [The UAB student conduct code may be accessed online](#).

COUNSELING SERVICES

Student Counseling Services offers no cost, confidential counseling for UAB students related to physical, emotional, social, intellectual, or spiritual concerns. Student Counseling Services is located on the 3rd floor of the Student Health and Wellness Center at 1714 9th Avenue South. For more information, call 205-934-5816 or [visit the Student Counseling Services website](#).

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS)

UAB is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students. If you are a student with a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and you require accommodations, please [contact Disability Support Services for information on accommodations, registration, and procedures](#). Requests for reasonable accommodations involve an interactive process and consist of a collaborative effort among the student, DSS, faculty, and staff. If you have a disability but have not contacted DSS, please call 205-934-4205 or visit [the DSS website](#).

If you are a student registered with Disability Support Services, it is your responsibility to contact the course instructor to discuss the accommodations that may be necessary in each course. Students with disabilities must be registered with DSS and provide an accommodation request letter before receiving academic adjustments. Reasonable and timely notification of accommodations for the course is encouraged and provided to the course instructor so that the accommodations can be arranged.

EMERGENCIES

Report suspicious or threatening activity to the UAB Police Department immediately. Law enforcement officers are available 24 hours, seven days a week. Also, more than 300 emergency blue light telephones connected directly to the police dispatch are located throughout campus.

BEHAVIORAL THREAT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT (BTAM)

The UAB and UAB Medicine Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Team (BTAM) is an interdisciplinary team dedicated to maintaining a safe, secure, and healthy campus environment for all students, employees, and visitors. BTAM uses a structured, proactive process to identify, assess, and manage behavioral threats to campus safety and well-being. Concerning behaviors—such as a significant change in academic performance or conduct, aggressive or irrational behavior, expressions of severe distress, or inability to control anger—should be reported promptly. Non-emergency situations involving students may be reported through the Division of Student Affairs at (205) 975-9509 or via the online reporting form. For more information, visit the [UAB BTAM website](#).

UAB POLICE:

For an emergency, dial 911 *from a campus phone*. For non-emergencies call: 205-934-3535 or 205-934-HELP (4357) or 205-934-4434.

Emergencies affecting campus are communicated via the following:

- UAB Severe Weather & Emergency Hotline 205-934-2165
- [UAB home webpage](#)
- [UAB Emergency Management webpage](#)
- Announcements on [BlazerNET](#)
- Cell phone messages and SMS text via B-ALERT. [Register for B-ALERT online](#).

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:

UAB is an [Equal Employment/Equal Educational Opportunity Institution](#) dedicated to providing equal opportunities and equal access to all individuals regardless of race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including pregnancy), genetic information, age, disability, and veteran's status. As required by Title IX, UAB prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates. Individuals may report concerns or questions to UAB's Assistant Vice President and Senior Title IX Coordinator. [The Title IX notice of nondiscrimination is located online](#).

FERPA TRAINING

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 provides protection for all educational records related to students enrolled in an educational program. UAB has a dedicated [FERPA website](#) with information about your rights and protection of your records. You may [email any questions or concerns about FERPA issues](#) to FERPA@uab.edu. All SHP students are required to complete FERPA Training. The course can be accessed at [THIS WEBSITE](#).

FINANCIAL AID

Financial Aid Counselors are available each day in the One Stop Student Services Office located in the Hill Student Center, [1400 University Blvd](#), Suite 103. If you have general

questions, you can contact the Office of Student Financial Aid at 205-934-8223 or [via email](#). For additional financial aid information [visit the UAB Cost & Aid website](#).

FOOD SERVICES

There are several dining facilities available on campus. The [campus dining map](#) can show you the closest to the SHP buildings. For additional information about meal plans and campus dining facilities [visit the Campus Dining website](#).

GRADUATE SCHOOL

The UAB Graduate School offers doctoral programs, post-master's specialist programs, and master's level programs. Graduate programs in SHP are coordinated through the Graduate School, and students must adhere to the Graduate School policies and procedures. Graduate School information for current students is available at [the UAB Graduate School website](#). Policies and Procedures for the Graduate School can be found in the [Graduate School Catalog](#).

GRADUATION

All students must complete an application for degree six months prior to graduating and no later than the deadline in the academic calendar. The University holds commencement every semester. Check the [UAB commencement website](#) for the most current information.

HEALTH INSURANCE

To ensure that all students have adequate health care coverage, including ongoing primary and specialty care, the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) requires all students to have major medical health insurance. Students can provide proof of their own private coverage or be enrolled in the Student Health Insurance Plan. The plan is a 1-year commercial policy provided by United HealthCare and is re-negotiated annually. This policy is a comprehensive health insurance policy at an affordable cost that is specifically designed to meet the needs of UAB Students. If you are required to have insurance but have sufficient coverage on another plan and wish to opt out of the Student Health Insurance Plan, you are required to submit a waiver to Student Health Services at the beginning of every semester. More information including submitting a waiver can be found at the [UAB Student Health Insurance Waivers website](#).

HIPAA TRAINING

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) includes significant requirements for protecting individual privacy of health information. All students in the School of Health Professions must complete an online tutorial and be tested on HIPAA regulations at the time of program admission. A BlazerID is required to access the training site, located at [UAB Online Learning](#). Compliance with the training requirement is monitored by the Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs.

HONOR SOCIETIES

All students in the School of Health Professions are eligible for consideration for the Alpha Eta Honor Society. The UAB Chapter of this Society recognizes students registered in the final term

of a baccalaureate or graduate health professions program. Inductees must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (4.0 = A) and be in the upper 10% of their program. Nominations are made by program directors in spring and summer terms.

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

To provide a safe and healthy environment for all students, faculty, and staff at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), first-time entering students, international students and scholars, and students in clinical & non-clinical programs, must provide proof of immunization against certain diseases, unless they have an approved medical or religious exemption. Full details can be found on the [UAB Immunizations webpage](#).

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD FOR HUMAN USE (IRB)

Student researchers must comply with all requirements for protection of human subjects. Detailed information is available on the [IRB website](#).

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Intellectual property refers to an asset that originated conceptually, such as literary and artistic works, inventions, or other creative works. These assets should be protected and used only as the creator intends. Training materials defining inventor status, patent criteria, and other intellectual property issues, as well as University Policies on Patents, Copyright, and Intellectual Property are on [the Office of Compliance & Risk homepage](#).

LACTATION CENTERS

The University has provided several lactation centers for students, faculty, and staff across the campus. Visit [the UAB Lactation Resources webpage](#) for a resource guide and a location map. The School of Health Professions' lactation room is in the Susan Mott Webb Nutrition Sciences Building at [1675 University Blvd](#), Room 431. Lactating students enrolled in the School of Health Professions have access to the room via their student ID/OneCard. If you cannot access the room, contact the building administrator, Julia Tolbert-Jackson at 205-873-5666.

LIBRARIES AND LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

[UAB's libraries](#) house excellent collections of books, periodicals, microforms, and other media. Students have online remote access to catalogs and online collections. Computers are available for student use during regular hours of operation.

SHP LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER (LRC)

The School of Health Professions Learning Resource Center (LRC) provides a unique set of enterprise solutions that promote an exciting, intriguing, and innovative learning environment. It provides audio/visual support, and information technology management of public, classroom, and testing labs. The building is at [1714 9th Avenue South](#), and the SHP student space is on the second floor. You can contact LRC staff [via email](#) or via phone at 205-934-5146.

LISTER HILL LIBRARY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

[Lister Hill Library](#) (LHL) is the largest biomedical library in Alabama and one of the largest in the south. It is located [across the crosswalk](#) from the School of Health Professions.

MERVYN H. STERNE LIBRARY

[Mervyn H. Sterne Library](#) has a collection of more than one million items supporting teaching and research in the arts and humanities, business, education, engineering, natural sciences and mathematics, and social and behavioral sciences. It is located at [917 13th Street South](#).

UAB STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The Student Conduct Code promotes honesty, integrity, accountability, rights, and responsibilities expected of students consistent with the core missions of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. This Code describes the standards of behavior for all students, and it outlines students' rights, responsibilities, and the campus processes for adjudicating alleged violations. Behavior that violates UAB standards of conduct listed within the Student Conduct Code and elsewhere will be subject to disciplinary action through the appropriate conduct process. Whether it is determined that an individual or group is responsible for the violation(s), either by direct involvement or by condoning, encouraging, or covering up the violation, appropriate response will occur with respect to the individual(s) and/or group involved.

[Undergraduate Non-Academic Policies](#)

[Graduate Non-Academic Policies](#)

ONE STOP STUDENT SERVICES

The mission of the One Stop is to provide a single point of professional integrated service to students. The One Stop serves students who need assistance with academic records, financial aid, registration, student accounting, OneCard, and other related topics. One Stop is located in the Hill Student Center, [1400 University Blvd.](#) Suite 103. You may contact the [One Stop](#) office by phone or email at 205-934-4300, 855-UAB-1STP (855-822-1787), [or via email](#).

PARKING

Student vehicles must be registered with [UAB Parking and Transportation Services](#), located at [608 8th Street South](#). Parking is allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Parking fees are established by location, payable by semester or year, and are billed to the student's account.

PLAGIARISM AND TURNITIN

Plagiarism violates the Academic Integrity Code and will be addressed in accordance with it. All papers submitted for grading in any SHP program may be reviewed using the online plagiarism monitoring software. Please note that all documents submitted to [Turnitin](#) are added to their database of papers that is used to screen future assignments for plagiarism.

RECREATION CENTER

The [Campus Recreation Center](#) is located at [1501 University Blvd](#). A valid student identification card or membership card is required for access. Facilities include basketball courts, racquetball courts, weight rooms, swimming pools, exercise rooms, and indoor track.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS AWARDS

All students in the School of Health Professions are eligible for consideration for [the SHP Student Awards Program](#), which includes the following awards:

- Alfred W. Sangster Award for Outstanding International Student – This award is presented annually to an international student in recognition of their academic and non-academic achievements.
- Cecile Clardy Satterfield Award for Humanism in Health Care – This award is made annually to recognize one outstanding student for humanitarianism, professionalism, and commitment to health care.
- Charles Brooks Award for Creativity – This award is made annually in recognition of creative accomplishments such as written publications or artistic contributions which complemented the student's academic activities.
- Dean's Leadership and Service Award – Presented to a maximum of three outstanding SHP students annually, this award recognizes leadership to the School, UAB, and the community.

A call for nominations will be sent to program directors each year. Please refer to the program section of this handbook for awards available to students in individual programs.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS SCHOLARSHIPS

SHP has several scholarship opportunities for students enrolled in SHP programs. The Scholarship Committee, comprised of faculty from each department, reviews and selects awardees. Please go to [the SHP Scholarship Application webpage](#) for a list of scholarships and instructions for application.

Application announcements are made by the Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs. Many programs in SHP also have scholarships available to currently enrolled students in those programs. Please refer to the program section of this handbook for more information.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS SHARED VALUES

- Collaboration
- Compassion & Caring
- Excellence & Achievement
- Integrity
- Respect
- Service
- Social Responsibility
- Stewardship

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media can serve as useful communication tools. However, health professions students should use the forums judiciously. For more information visit [the UAB Social Media Guidelines webpage](#). The school's official sites are on the following platforms:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Vimeo](#)
- [X/Twitter](#)
- [YouTube](#)

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The University provides prevention, counseling, and treatment services to students through [Student Health Services](#) (SHS) located at [1714 9th Avenue South](#). Appointments may be scheduled via [their online portal](#).

TITLE IX

In accordance with Title IX, the University of Alabama at Birmingham does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any of its programs or services. The University is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination based on sex and expects individuals who live, work, teach, and study within this community to contribute positively to the environment and to refrain from behaviors that threaten the freedom or respect that every member of our community deserves. For more information about Title IX, policy, reporting, protections, resources, and supports, please visit [the UAB Title IX webpage](#).

TUITION AND FEES

[UAB tuition and fees are published online](#). They may be paid through BlazerNET. SHP programs have specific fees attached to programs, courses, and/ or laboratories. Payment deadlines for each semester are published on the official academic calendar. Please note that failure to meet payment deadlines can result in being administratively withdrawn from courses.

WEATHER

Severe weather situations that may affect the safety of students, faculty, and staff are communicated through the same channels as other emergencies. UAB has a dedicated [Preparedness webpage with Severe Weather Gathering Points and supply lists](#). Other information sources include the [B-ALERT System](#) (contact information must be setup and current) and the UAB Severe Weather & Emergency Hotline 205-934-2165.

WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSE / PROGRAM

Withdrawal from a course or from your program is an official process and should be discussed with your academic advisor and/or program director. Most programs in the School of Health Professions are full-time and the curricula specifically sequenced. Withdrawal from a course

may risk you having to wait to register for the class again. Withdrawals are made through the UAB registration system via the Student Resources tab in BlazerNET. Notice of program withdrawal should be given in writing to the program director. For more information [visit the UAB Add/Drop, Extended Drop and Withdrawal Policy webpage](#), which also includes a medical withdrawal policy.

SECTION 2 – SHP AND UAB POLICIES

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS POLICIES

DISMISSAL OF STUDENT FOR FAILURE TO MAKE SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

[Dismissal of Student and Appeal Process](#)

EMERGENCY PLAN – SHPB/LRC/WEBB

[SHPB/LRC/WEBB Emergency Plan](#)

BACKGROUND CHECK AND DRUG SCREEN POLICY

Students in SHP programs are required to undergo a background check and drug screen using the school's approved vendor, [Disa Healthcare Technology](#), at the time of program admission, and again, prior to placement in a fieldwork placement (clinical, internship, practicum, residency, etc.). Additional checks/screens may be required by the individual sites therefore; students should work with the program to ensure compliance requirements are met. Instructions for requesting the background check and drug screens are provided to students by their programs. Students in SHP undergraduate programs must complete a module on drug screening and background checks during their first semester. The module will be located in Canvas, UAB's learning management system.

The [SHP Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs](#) is responsible for ensuring student compliance with the Background Check and Drug Screen Policy throughout the program. Students found to be non-compliant with this policy will not be allowed to matriculate in the program (orientation, attend class, fieldwork placement, etc.) until all requirements are met. Program Directors, Fieldwork Coordinators, and students will be notified of non-compliance and a hold will be placed on the students' account.

- Fees for these screenings will be the responsibility of the student.
- The rules and regulations governing individual fieldwork placement sites may include additional provisions and/or more stringent guidelines which supersede this policy. Fees for these screenings are the responsibility of the student.
- Should your criminal background check contain issues, or if you fail a drug screen that may prevent you from receiving or sitting for board certification/licensure, a representative from the Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs will contact you. Depending upon the outcome, students will have a registration hold placed on their account until in compliance and this may result in being dismissed from the program. See your program's guidelines regarding specific consequences.

Programs requiring a criminal background check and drug screening by the end of the first semester of enrollment and again, prior to fieldwork placement (if applicable in the program requirements), are the following:

- Administration Health Services, PhD
- Biomedical Sciences to Biotechnology Fast Track
- Biomedical Sciences to Clinical Laboratory Science Fast Track

- Biomedical Sciences to Health Physics Fast Track
- Biomedical Sciences to Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging Sciences Fast Track
- Biomedical and Health Sciences, MS
- Biotechnology, MS
- Biotechnology, PhD
- Dietitian Education Program, Graduate Certificate
- Genetic Counseling, MS
- Health Administration (Residential), MSHA
- Health Care Management to Healthcare Quality and Safety Fast Track
- Health Care Management to Health Informatics Fast Track
- Health Care Management to Occupational Therapy Doctorate Fast Track
- Health Physics, MS
- Medical Laboratory Science, MS
- Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging Sciences, MS
- Nutrition Sciences, MS
 - Dietetic Internship Clinical Track
 - Dietitian Education Program
 - Research Track
- Nutrition Sciences, PhD
- Occupational Therapy, OTD – (entry level)
- Physical Therapy, DPT
- Physician Associate Studies, MSPAS
- Rehabilitation Science, PhD

The following students enrolled in SHP undergraduate programs will complete a learning module related to background checks and drug screens in Canvas, UAB's learning management system by the first semester of enrollment. If a fieldwork placement (clinical, internship, practicum, residency, etc.) is required, students must complete criminal background checks and drug screens prior to the first day of the semester of a fieldwork placement:

- Health Care Management, BS
- Biomedical Sciences, BS
- Nutrition Sciences, BS
- Disability Studies and Rehabilitation Science, BS

Programs waived from the Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening requirements are the following:

- Applied Mixed Methods Research, Graduate Certificate
- Biotechnology Regulatory Affairs, Graduate Certificate
- Clinical Informatics, Graduate Certificate
- Health Administration (International and Executive tracks), MSHA
- Health Informatics, MSHI
- Healthcare Finance Management, Graduate Certificate
- Healthcare Leadership, DSc

- Healthcare Leadership, Graduate Certificate
- Healthcare Quality and Safety, MS
- Healthcare Quality and Safety, Graduate Certificate
- Health Services Research, MS
- Healthcare Simulation, MS
- Healthcare Simulation, Graduate Certificate
- Nutrition for Community Health, Graduate Certificate
- Nutrition Sciences, MS
 - Clinical Track-Prior Learning
 - Lifestyle Management and Disease Prevention Track
- Low Vision Rehabilitation, Graduate Certificate
- Multi-Tiered Approach to Trauma, Graduate Certificate
- Occupational Therapy Doctorate (Post Professional)
- Physical Therapy Residencies (Neurologic, Orthopedic)
- Primary Care Physical Therapy for Underserved Populations, Graduate Certificate

Students enrolled in exempt programs who participate in a course(s) incorporating community, corporate or other high impact, out-of-classroom activities such as service learning, capstone projects or other hands-on learning experiences, may be required by placement sites to submit background check and drug screening results. Students are responsible for the fees associated with such screening.

DISA HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTIONS

[Disa Healthcare Technology](#) is a secure platform that allows you to order your background check & drug test online. Once you have placed your order, you may use your login to access additional features, including document storage, portfolio builders and reference tools. Disa Healthcare Technology also allows you to upload any additional documents required by your school.

Order Summary

- Required Personal Information
 - In addition to entering your full name and date of birth, you will be asked for your Social Security Number, current address, phone number, and email address.
- Drug Test (LabCorp)
 - Within 24-48 hours after you place your order, the electronic chain of custody form e-chain will be placed directly into your CastleBranch account. This e-chain will explain where you need to go to complete your drug test.
- Payment Information
 - At the end of the online process, you will be prompted to enter your Visa or MasterCard information. Money orders are also accepted, but will result in a \$10 fee and additional turn-around-time.

Place Your Order

[Visit the website](#), click “place order” and choose the Disa CB platform (see logo screenshot below).



Enter package code AHO1 – Background Check and Drug Test. You will be required to enter your program under “Student Information” classification. You will then be directed to set up your Disa/CastleBranch profile account. This package code is for the following majors:

- Health Care Management
- Biomedical Sciences
- Biotechnology
- Biomedical and Health Sciences
- Genetic Counseling
- Health Administration – Residential (MSHA)
- Health Care Quality and Safety (not employees of health care organizations)
- Health Informatics
- Health Physics
- Medical Laboratory Sciences
- Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Sciences
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Physician Associate Studies
- Rehabilitation Sciences

View Your Results

Your results will be posted directly to your Disa/CastleBranch profile account. You will be notified if there is any missing information needed to process your order. Although 95% of background check results are completed within 3-5 business days, some results may take longer. Your order will show as “In Process” until it has been completed in its entirety. Your school’s administrator can also securely view your results online with their unique username and password. If you have any additional questions, you may contact the Service Desk at 888-723-4263 x 7196 or submit a question [using the online contact us form](#).

ACCIDENTS / INJURIES OCCURRING ON CAMPUS:

All accidents/injuries occurring while involved in a program associated with the School of Health Professions are to be promptly reported to the faculty member in charge of class. Incident reports for accidents and injuries must be filed with the Department Administrative Office within 48 hours of the incident. Failure to report accidents or injuries within 48 hours of the incident may impact UAB's ability to address the accident or injury.

ACCIDENT / INJURY REPORTING PROCEDURE

When a student, visitor, faculty, or staff is involved in an accident or sustains an injury while involved in a program associated with the School of Health Professions, an accident / injury report is required. The faculty member in charge of the class where the injury occurs, or who is the first point of contact following the injury should download and complete this [Incident Report Form](#).

NEEDLESTICK/ BLOOD OR BODY FLUID EXPOSURES

When a student, visitor, faculty, or staff is involved in a body fluid or needlestick exposure while involved in a program associated with the School of Health Professions, they should follow the procedures on [the UAB Human Resources website](#). The faculty member in charge of the class where the exposure occurs, or who is the first point of contact following the injury should download and complete this [Incident Report Form](#).

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE VOLUNTEER RESEARCH:

Undergraduate or graduate volunteer students wanting to conduct research in a School of Health Professions laboratory should contact [Dr. Samantha Giordano-Mooga via email](#) for requirements.

UAB POLICIES

ACADEMIC PROGRESS

[UAB ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS](#)

[UAB ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS](#)

HEALTH

[UAB POLICY ON IMMUNIZATIONS](#)

[UAB POLICY ON NEEDLE STICKS AND EXPOSURES](#)

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

[UAB POLICY ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT](#)

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

[UAB POLICY ON CAMPUS SAFETY](#)

[UAB POLICY ON FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPONS](#)

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

[UAB POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CODE](#)

[UAB POLICY ON ETHICAL STANDARDS IN RESEARCH AND OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES](#)

[UAB POLICY ON PATENTS](#)

SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE

[UAB POLICY ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, USE AND CONSUMPTION](#)

[UAB POLICY AS A DRUG FREE CAMPUS](#)

[UAB POLICY ON NON-SMOKING](#)

TECHNOLOGY

[UAB POLICY ON TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES](#)

STUDENT COMPLAINTS

[UAB COMPLAINT POLICY](#)

SECTION 3: PROGRAM SPECIFIC INFORMATION

MS IN HEALTH PHYSICS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Master of Science (MS) in Health Physics Program. This handbook has been compiled to provide you with an information source for the MS in Health Physics. The [campus directory and academic calendars are in the quicklinks tab of the main UAB homepage](#).

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

To provide a quality educational experience that prepares students to be skilled and certified professionals across all health physics disciplines. UAB Health Physics graduates will contribute to the profession throughout their careers while upholding the highest standards of ethics and integrity both personally and professionally.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Our faculty and staff are teachers, scholars, researchers and leaders who provide exceptional mentoring and training. They are prepared to deliver high-quality education to all our students. [Visit the Health Physics website to see our current faculty and staff](#).

ACCREDITATION

The MHP program is seeking accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering Technology (ABET). The process is expected to be completed in 2028.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **Problem Solving:** Students will be able to analyze broadly defined technical and scientific problems in health physics and formulate solutions by applying principles of mathematics, science, and engineering.
- **Design:** Students will be able to design a system, process, procedure, or program that meets specified health physics needs and constraints.
- **Experimentation & Analysis:** Students will be able to analyze and interpret data from experiments or hypothesis tests and use scientific judgment to draw valid conclusions.
- **Communication:** Students will be able to communicate technical information effectively to both specialist and non-specialist audiences in written and oral form.
- **Professional & Ethical Responsibility:** Students will be able to evaluate the ethical, professional, and societal implications of health physics solutions in global, economic, and environmental contexts.
- **Teamwork:** Students will be able to contribute effectively to a team by setting goals, planning tasks, meeting deadlines, and analyzing risk and uncertainty.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- **Professionalism.** To be successful in the professional realm, graduates will employ responsible teamwork, clear communication skills, effective project management capabilities, professional attitudes, and a clear understanding of the ethical issues faced by our profession. Graduates will engage in life-long learning and professional development, as demonstrated by participation in technical seminars, professional conferences and symposiums, discipline specific trainings, and advancement in the professional certification process.
- **Problem solving.** In their careers, graduates will integrate their technical knowledge, applied skills, and professional judgement to design and evaluate radiological systems considering safety, reliability, security, economics, and societal impact.
- **Community.** Graduates will contribute to the growth of their professional and scientific field, will provide for their own development, and will contribute to the expansion and development of their colleagues. They will do so while engaging the radiation safety community (and beyond) in an inclusive and equitable manner.
- **Breadth.** Graduates will employ their broad technical knowledge in their careers. Graduates will identify, formulate, analyze, and solve radiological problems by applying fundamental and advanced scientific and technical knowledge coupled with applied skills. Breadth also includes a continuing awareness of contemporary issues, influences, and trends needed to understand the impact of radiological issues in global and societal contexts.

CERTIFICATION EXAM

There are multiple options for Board certification relevant to Health Physics. Two are discussed below and additional options are discussed during program courses.

CERTIFIED HEALTH PHYSICIST

Certification in health physics requires passing the Certified Health Physicist (CHP) exam. The exam is given in two parts and is administered by the [American Board of Health Physics \(ABHP\)](#).

CERTIFICATE IN MEDICAL HEALTH PHYSICS

The [American Board of Medical Physics \(ABMP\)](#) certifies physicists and related scientists to practice clinical medical physics and perform research on human subjects. Currently, the three primary certificates are offered in the field of radiological sciences: Magnetic Resonance Imaging Physics, Medical Health Physics, and MRI Physics for Radiation Therapy. [More information can be found on the ABMP website.](#)

ADMISSIONS & ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

UAB Health Physics [admissions requirements can be found on the Health Physics webpage.](#)

DEFERRAL POLICIES

Once accepted into the program, students can defer their admission for up to one year (e.g., if accepted for fall 2026 acceptance can be deferred to Fall 2027) under exceptional circumstances. All deferrals are subject to approval by the Program Director.

TRANSFER CREDIT POLICIES

A maximum of 12 credit hours of courses taken from an ABET accredited Health Physics Program can be transferred to UAB at the discretion of the Program Director.

CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Health Physics Program follows [the UAB Graduate School enrollment requirements, which can be found online](#).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, RE-ENTRY & WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES

The Health Physics Program follows [the UAB Graduate School requirements, which can be found online](#).

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Each candidate for a master's degree must signify the intention to complete the requirements by a particular graduation date by completing the online application for degree in the graduation planning system. Because this form is used to check completion of requirements, order the diploma, and enter the student in the commencement program, [the online form must be completed by the deadline provided online](#).

When in doubt, refer to the UAB Webpages on "[Completion of a Degree](#)" and "[Your Thesis and Dissertation](#)" for current deadlines, committee resources, defense information, templates, checklists, etc. This is your one and only official place for information. The information in this handbook is intended to provide guidance, but the UAB web page contains the up-to-date requirements and deadlines that must be followed and met to graduate.

CREDIT HOURS

The MS in Health Physics program contains a total of 53 credit hours. UAB defines a full-time student as 9 credit hours per semester. A minimum of 3 credit hours must be taken during the semester the student intends to graduate.

RECOMMENDED CURRICULUM OUTLINE

A personalized curriculum will be created for each student to ensure career goals and scheduling requirements are met. The plan below is meant to be an example option for a full-time student graduating in the minimum of four (4) semesters.

If you do not have the required prerequisites for the program (Physics I & II and Calculus I & II), but are conditionally accepted, you will be required to take MHP 575, Preparatory Health Physics

in the summer before your first fall semester or concurrently with your fall courses, to ensure preparedness for the program and to meet accreditation requirements. [Descriptions for each course can be found on the UAB Catalog website.](#)

SEMESTER 1 – FALL

- MHP 602 – Radiation Physics – 3 hours
- MHP 651 – Advanced Radiation Biology – 3 hours
- MHP 650 – Health Physics Research Methods – 3 hours
- CDS 505 – Professional Development – 1 hour

SEMESTER 2 – SPRING

- MHP 620 – Principles of Dosimetry – 3 hours
- MHP 610 – Radiation Detection and Measurement – 3 hours
- MHP 612 – Radiation Detection and Measurement Lab – 1 hour
- MHP 654 – Laser Safety & Protection or Elective – 3 hours
- MHP 653 – Research Methodology & Publication Analysis – 2 hours
- MHP 645 – Radiation Shielding & Protection – 3 hours

SEMESTER 3 – SUMMER

- MHP 657 – Monte Carlo Techniques for Health Physicists or Elective – 1 hour
- MHP 698/699 – Non-thesis/Thesis Research – 5 hours
- MHP 691/692 – Supervised Practice – 6 hours

SEMESTER 4 – SECOND FALL

- MHP 655 – Contemporary Health Physics – 3 hours
- MHP 611 – Physics of Diagnostic Imaging or Elective – 3 hours
- MHP 621 – Nonionizing Radiation or Elective – 3 hours
- MHP 691/692 – Supervised Practice – 6 hours
- MHP 698/699 – Non-thesis/Thesis Research – 1 hour (minimum)

SUPERVISED PRACTICE REQUIREMENT

Supervised practices during the first Summer semester and second Fall semester are a required portion of the program.

Practical, hands-on education is a major component of the Health Physics Program curriculum and is conducted in a variety of settings in Birmingham and elsewhere. Every effort is made to accommodate student location requests discussed early, but students may be required to temporarily relocate for this portion of their education. The purpose of the student practicum is to provide the student with hand-on experience in the field in a variety of settings.

The list of MHP practicum sites is continuously changing and expanding. Alternative sites or ideas for completing the practicum requirement are always considered and may be discussed with MHP Faculty. Each student will discuss their options for supervised practice with MHP Faculty and the Supervised Practice Coordinator (instructor(s) of MHP 691/692).

Supervised practice is assessed by both the mentor and the student at the end of the practicum by the Supervised Practice Coordinator (instructor(s) of MHP 691/692). Mentors and students are encouraged to reach out earlier if issues arise.

PLAN I VS PLAN II OPTIONS

The UAB Graduate School recognizes two principal paths, Plan I and Plan II, which lead to the master's degree. Plan I is for those students that will complete a thesis. Plan II is for non-thesis students that will complete a graduate level capstone project that encompasses their education. Although thesis research is not required as part of a Plan II course of study, the student is expected to gain insight into the techniques of problem posing and problem solving and to use these insights to prepare a written report. A plan of study/course curriculum outline is required for all Plan II master's students when submitting the application for degree (before graduation).

Both Plan I and Plan II options are available to health physics students. The Plan I thesis option is for students interested in research or further graduate education. Plan I students complete original research work that is publishable in the open literature. Plan II is geared towards students that want to go straight into industry or that want to advance their current careers by obtaining a graduate degree. The Plan II option offers a shorter path to completion. Students should discuss their career goals with the program director and adviser during their first semester of graduate school to determine which path is appropriate for them individually.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

Both Plan I and Plan II options have a common set of qualitative and quantitative (i.e., measurable) objectives:

- Qualitative
 - Gain insight into problem posing and solving.
 - Display an initiative for lifelong learning.
 - Articulate the value of research to enhance the practice of health physics.
 - Recognize and acknowledge situations that result in a real or perceived conflict of interest.
- Quantitative
 - Demonstrate the ability to formulate a research question and an understanding of the research process.
 - Implement a research project or scholarly activity that will contribute to the field of health physics, with the project's rationale and objectives clearly defined and the research methodology outlined and described.
 - Plan and execute a thorough search and review of the literature. Read appropriate literature, identify resources, and generate a literature review that reflects organization, summarization, and synthesizing of information.
 - Learn to appropriately cite and reference published works.
 - Apply knowledge of research methodology/study design to critically evaluate research outcomes.
 - Learn to analyze data, interpret results, and apply lessons learned to the research question or project as applicable.

- Produce grammatically sound, clear, and proficient scientific writing.
- Communicate and collaborate with faculty committee to gather feedback, review project plans, and meet program deadlines.
- Engage in self-reflection/evaluation of writing and the peer review process.
- Experience presenting research findings or project outcomes to professionals through oral presentation and development of visual aids. Effectively give a presentation on health physics issues while assessing and determining the educational goals and learning objectives based on the needs and characteristics of the audience. Present using a delivery style that results in effective communication to the intended audience that is clear and unambiguous.

Specific requirements related to deadlines are found within this manual. Details regarding the process for choosing an acceptable project idea and producing an acceptable final manuscript are also within this manual, and should be discussed with your program director, advisor, and committee regularly.

Each student completes a personalized timeline during their first semester as a graduate student as part of MHP 650 to ensure project and degree completion in a timely manner. These timelines will be reviewed and approved by the program director or student's advisor. The timeline is a living document and should be consulted and updated regularly by the student in collaboration with their advisor and the program director.

Each semester's goals are represented in the following pages. These should be shared with committee members so that they are aware of the timelines students are working on. It is the student's responsibility to keep on schedule. These deadlines are the student's responsibility to maintain. Any legitimate inability to meet a deadline should be discussed with the program director and student adviser as soon as possible. Meeting deadlines is a common expectation for students but is also important for professionals. Key deadlines for plan I students can be found [here](#).

THESIS – PLAN I

The plan I thesis can be completed within the four-semester time frame of the standard program. However, taking the thesis route will often require one or two extra semesters of time spent doing research and writing the thesis document to meet university deadlines.

A basic plan I timeline is provided below, but each student should develop their own individual timeline to ensure project completion within two years (six semesters). [When developing your timeline, review this website carefully](#) to ensure you have noted all important dates. [The Graduate School also has a handy checklist online](#).

EXAMPLE PLAN I TIMELINE (SIX-SEMESTERS)

Fall Year 1: “WHAT will I do?”

- Meet with faculty and program director to discuss ideas, interests, career goals
- Complete MHP 650 Health Physics Research Methods
- Review this research handbook carefully
- Complete Institutional Review Board (IRB) / Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) training online and required readings (if needed)

- **Deliverable: Meeting with program director (PD) or advisor to discuss.**

Spring Year 1: “WHAT will I do?”

- Confirm project committee members
- Decide on topic/question/project
 - Begin literature search and review
 - Committee meeting to determine design/plan for implementation
 - Complete IRB/IACUC submission (if applicable)
 - Meet with statistics consultant (if needed)
- Complete MHP 653 Research Methods course
 - Complete written proposal describing project plan
- Set up regular meetings with project advisor
- **Deliverable: Submit [Committee Form](#) to UAB Graduate School.**

Summer Year 1: “HOW will I do it?”

- MHP 699 (1-5 credits)
- Implement plan / start research
 - IRB/IACUC revisions (if needed)
 - Project materials development, if applicable
 - Literature review, if applicable
 - Regular faculty and committee updates related to the project
 - Start drafting manuscript (write introduction, lit review, and methods)
 - Data collection and analyze data as relevant
- Attend HPS annual meeting in July
- **Deliverable: Status update meetings with PD/Advisor. Apply for [Candidacy](#) with the Graduate School.**

Fall Year 2: “NOW, I am doing it.”

- MHP 699 (1-5 credits)
- Continue implementation of plan / research
- **Deliverable: Status update meetings with PD/Advisor.**

Spring Year 2: “NOW, I am doing it.”

- MHP 699 (1-5 credits)
- Continue implementation of plan / research
- Submit abstract to HPS or other conference
- **Deliverable: Status update meetings with PD/Advisor.**

Summer Year 2: “SEE what I’ve done.”

- MHP 699 (1-5 credits)
- Finalize research
 - Complete and final written thesis (see UAB thesis templates [see UAB thesis templates here](#)) and provide to committee two weeks prior to defense date
 - Set defense date and publicize, [see here for details and forms](#)
 - Prepare submission for publication
 - Thesis presentation (open to public)
 - Finalize IRB Report if applicable
- [Do paperwork, found here](#). NOTE THE DEADLINES!
- Submit your Application for Degree in BlazerNET
- **Deliverable: Status update meetings with PD/Advisor. [Apply to graduate and schedule your defense before the deadline](#).**

CAPSTONE PROJECTS – PLAN II

All plan II projects should be completed within the four-semester time frame of the program for full time students. However, if a student is unable to fully complete their project but is making significant progress, an extension may be considered. The student must notify the program director in writing as soon as possible if they feel an extension will be needed. Any changes to the original plan for the student requires the student to work with the program director, advisor, and project committee to arrange for a timeline of the extension. The student must also remain registered for non-thesis research credits until the project is complete. If an extension is granted, the maximum extension period is one year. The student will graduate in the term in which they complete their project.

A basic plan II timeline is provided below, but each student should develop their own individual timeline to ensure project completion in the four-semester time frame of the program.

EXAMPLE PLAN II TIMELINE (FOUR-SEMESTER)

Fall Year 1: “WHAT will I do?”

- Meet with faculty and program director to discuss ideas, interests, career goals
- Complete MHP 650 Health Physics Research Methods
- Review this research handbook carefully
- Complete IRB training online and required readings (if needed)
- **Deliverable: Meeting with program director (PD) or advisor to discuss.**

Spring Year 1: “HOW will I do it?”

- Confirm project committee members
- Decide on topic/question/project
 - Begin literature search and review
 - Committee meeting to determine design/plan for implementation
 - Complete IRB submission (if applicable)
 - Meet with statistics consultant (if needed)
- Complete MHP 653 Research Methods course

- Complete written proposal describing project plan
- Set up regular meetings with project advisor
- **Deliverable: Meeting with program director (PD) or advisor to discuss.**

Summer Year 1: “NOW, I am doing it.”

- MHP 698 (1-5 credits)
- Implement plan / conduct research / complete bulk of project
 - IRB revisions (if needed)
 - Project materials development (if applicable)
 - Literature review (if applicable)
 - Regular faculty and committee updates related to the project
 - Start drafting manuscript (write introduction, lit review, and methods)
 - Data collection and analyze data as relevant
- Attend HPS annual meeting in July
- **Deliverable: Meeting with program director (PD) or advisor to discuss. Submit initial draft of research paper/project.**

Fall Year 2: “SEE what I’ve done.”

- MHP 698 (1-5 credits)
- Complete and final written manuscript
 - Write results, tables/figures, discussion, and bibliography
 - Prepare submission for publication
 - Final presentation with committee and faculty
 - Submit final electronic copy to program director
 - Design poster for student presentations
 - Finalize IRB Report (if applicable)
- Submit abstract to HPS or other conference
- Submit your Application for Degree in BlazerNET
- **Deliverable: Written manuscript and committee presentation. Oral examination with MHP faculty.**

Fall Year 2: “SEE what I’ve done.”

- MHP 698 (1-5 credits)
- Complete and final written manuscript
 - Write results, tables/figures, discussion, and bibliography
 - Prepare submission for publication
 - Final presentation with committee and faculty
 - Submit final electronic copy to program director
 - Design poster for student presentations
 - Finalize IRB Report (if applicable)
- Submit abstract to HPS or other conference

- Submit your Application for Degree in BlazerNET
- **Deliverable: Written manuscript and committee presentation. Oral examination with MHP faculty.**

SELECTING A RESEARCH TOPIC

All project ideas must be approved by the Program Director or the student's advisor. Students are encouraged to select topics of personal and professional interest. All projects that require human data collection or patient participation must be approved by the IRB (see below on IRB requirements); for animals see the [IACUC website](#).

Students are encouraged to choose an area of interest during their first semester of graduate school, as indicated in the timelines above. The program director or other faculty meet with students to discuss places for inspiration – which may include observations from the student's experiences, an area of interest arising from a literature review, ideas proposed by faculty, an area relevant for future career pursuits, or may come from a specific focus, such as a specified population or phenomenon that a student wants to investigate. All MHP students will also attend Research Days to learn about ongoing research and opportunities for students. This generally occurs each fall semester. Opportunities outside of UAB also exist, e.g., the Department of Energy Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI) program as one example. If you are interested in outside research, notify the program director or your advisor when discussing your career path.

Upon the end of the second semester each student will have identified a topic and a project committee. During their second semester of the first year, they will complete the literature review and proposal for the project (exact timing varies, see timelines).

Faculty are kept updated about student progress and topics chosen at several points during the year. Even those faculty not working on student project committees can attend a lecture or discussion to be kept abreast of students' goals, timeline, examples of projects, and the opportunity to contribute project ideas.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Each student must do a preliminary literature search to determine if sufficient and current information will be available to complete the type of study/project under consideration. The information must be current and of sufficient quality and quantity to support the development of a paper with scientific rigor.

The literature review is a required part of the student's final manuscript and should be reflected there. Progress and quality of the literature review is monitored in the MHP 650, 653, and 698/699 classes, and feedback is provided from committee members, the program director, and other MHP faculty. The goals of the literature review are to enable students to understand and explain the history of the issue, compare and describe relevant publications and existing perspectives of the issue, and describe the evolution of and need for their project idea and its potential to

contribute to the field. The literature review is intended to outline the objectives/hypothesis of the project and lay the background for its methodology.

All references should be included in a “References” section of the project document (thesis or capstone report), a good literature review typically has a minimum of 30 references. Additional references will likely be used in other sections of the paper. The literature review process is likely to continue throughout the length of the project. See more information in the “Manuscript and Formatting” section of this manual. Tip – when you find a particularly relevant or interesting paper, go to its references list to find more papers on the topic! This makes it easy to find many papers in a given topic area. You may also find key authors in your area of interest.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

To support students in achieving the objectives for their project, orientation and training on library resources will be provided for students in the MHP 650 course. The orientation and training will include an introduction to electronic and paper journal resources at UAB, as well as university databases (with specific introduction to databases such as PubMed and OMIM). Students will learn about the Inter-library loan (ILL) program for obtaining papers free of charge.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CODE

The [UAB Academic Integrity Code](#) will be reviewed with students periodically throughout the program. Any act of dishonesty in academic work constitutes academic misconduct and will be reported to the School for appropriate disciplinary action.

The use of AI in research is tricky and should be approached with caution. You are responsible for the entirety of your research, thesis or capstone project written document, and any results you generate. Appropriate uses of AI will be discussed in MHP 650, 653 and other courses. See the [UAB AI Policies and Expectations](#) website for more information.

COMMITTEE AND ROLES

Plan I students are required to have a formal thesis committee, see “[Graduate Thesis Committee](#)” here for Plan I requirements. Plan II students will have a designated advisor and at least two MHP faculty will serve on the oral examination board. Committee members for Plan I students are not limited to the MHP faculty or even to UAB faculty. Outside faculty are welcome but must be approved by the graduate school. See the link above for requirements. One of the committee members must be an MHP program faculty member. The format of the project and requirements for successful completion of the project will be determined by the student, committee advisor, committee, and MHP program director. *The student is responsible* for forming the committee and for routinely communicating with them regarding the status of their project. Students should let the program directors know who they’ve asked to be on their committee and provide documentation of their commitment. This can be done via email communications. Students should confirm this is completed.

Committee meetings are scheduled by the student. The students are responsible for creating an agenda for these meetings and distributing them in advance. Students are also responsible for

creating minutes from each meeting that documents the items discussed during the meeting. The minutes should be sent to all committee members within one week of the committee meeting. Meetings can be in-person or hybrid and are organized to facilitate discussion about the plans for the project, progress of the project, development of the paper, and final presentation. Additional involvement through email revision of papers and email feedback is expected. It is expected that each committee will meet at least once each semester beginning in the Spring of the student's first year.

In most cases, the project committee advisor will be the project faculty member on the committee. While all committee members are essential to the development of a successful student project, the committee advisor is someone who has been designated to spearhead efforts with the student - specifically related to attention to time management and process supervision. Some projects may lend themselves to having another professional (not an MHP faculty) serve as the advisor, and this is acceptable. The selected advisor should be indicated on the proposal.

Under Plan I, the final examination should take the form of a presentation and public defense of the thesis, followed by an examination of the candidate's comprehensive knowledge of the field. The time, date, and location of this examination is reported to the Graduate School via the online [Request for Thesis or Dissertation Approval](#) forms and must be submitted at least 10 days before the public defense. The meeting must be appropriately announced on campus, must be open to all interested parties, and must take place before the posted semester Thesis defense [deadline](#).

Plan II students should expect to conduct an oral presentation of their final project to their committee and be prepared to respond to questions. **The committee may request changes to be made to the project, paper, or the oral presentation of the project. These changes should be made in writing and should be provided prior to graduation. The oral presentation to the committee and other assigned presentations are intended to prepare students for possible future presentations at a professional conference. Any feedback or revisions resulting from the oral presentation will be provided in writing to the student.** The program director will sign off on completion of the student's project prior to graduation.

Committee members should commit to being involved in the project through the time of graduation for the student. Students will all be responsible for getting each committee member's name and written commitment to the MHP program as part of their proposal.

STATISTICS

The [Center of Clinical and Translational Science \(CCTS\)](#) at UAB provides statistical help for students whose projects require data collection and analysis. To acquire a statistician's help on their committee, the student should send a paragraph description of their study/project to the program director or attend the CCTS drop-in clinic (see their webpage for details). The CCTS will identify the person best suited and able to help students with their data/stats needs. The student may plan to involve this person as a committee member, including rights to authorship as applicable.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB) / INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC)

Once the project idea is laid out, determine if the project will require IRB approval. Start by reviewing the [UAB IRB website](#). Students are encouraged to meet with an IRB representative with any questions they may have about their application or plans (regarding recruitment, consent, forms, collaboration with non-UAB entities, etc.). The IRB website also gives **deadlines for their meeting dates**. If a strict deadline is anticipated for a student project, they may view the IRB website to confirm the deadline for their IRB submission. Students doing animal work may require [IACUC](#) approval.

As part of the MHP 650/653 courses, students will complete an Initial IRB Training, [CITI Basic-Biomedical or Behavioral-Course in Human Research Protections](#). Further training will be completed as required for each specific project.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

The project proposal (plan I and plan II students) is completed in the MHP 650/653 courses. The proposal is a single document that contains, at a minimum:

- Title of proposed research
- Research question/topic
- Preliminary literature review with references
- A list of committee members
- Timeline for project completion

IMPLEMENTATION

The bulk of project implementation is expected to occur during the first Summer and second Fall semester. Responsibilities for this will vary by project – but may include data collection.

You should consider *at least* the following topics as you develop your project:

- Abstract
- Impetus for study question
- Background lit review
- Aims of study
- Cohesive and organized writing
- Timeline
- Study Design
- Quantitative or Qualitative research
- Participants
- Procedures
- Survey
- Data Analysis
- Tables and Graphs

- Outcomes
- Application and Contribution
- Ability to generalize
- Strengths/Limitations
- Future Directions
- Flow and Grammar
- Accurate citations
- Formatting

DATA STORAGE

MHP students will use cloud storage for all project-related materials, including IRB materials, committee meeting agendas and minutes, raw data, and data analysis. Protected folders on UAB's SharePoint will be created by program faculty and shared with each student. UAB students, faculty, and staff can access cloud storage through their UAB account.

MANUSCRIPT AND FORMATTING

Plan I [students must follow the specific thesis guidelines available on the UAB Graduate School's website](#). Plan II students should format their written report in a professional format. They may use the thesis guidelines if desired.

Literature Review: An overview of findings from studies previously published on topic of interest or related areas, especially publications that address the key research question(s). May include basic description or background information on the topic under investigation. At least 30 references must be cited. Reference format is left to the student to select, just be consistent throughout the report. A reference manager is highly recommended.

Manuscript: The student will identify a target journal for manuscript publication. Guidelines and requirements for section content, length, and formatting are provided within the journal's guide for authors. It is recommended that the desired journal be selected first, then write the manuscript according to that journal's specific requirements. General manuscript information includes:

- Title Page – should include concise title, indicate authors, institutional affiliations, running header
- Abstract – accurate, self-contained, coherent. Review selected journal's instructions.
- Background – introduction, rationale, purpose/goals/hypothesis
- Method – study design description, qualitative/quantitative, IRB or approval process, participants/sites/recruitment method, method of collecting data, participants' actions, other groups involved, materials/tools/instruments used, procedure taken/administration of survey
- Results – size/strength of relationships or results identified, writing statistical symbols and results in text is reviewed in APA manual, what statistical tools were used, what types of analyses run, what type of data was pursued/what groups compared/what type of output was generated, statistics, power, significance, tables/figures– captions and titles reviewed in APA Manual

- Discussion – re-visit rationale/problem, analysis and interpretation of findings, limitations/strengths, future directions, application to field (additional or fewer sections depending on journal requirements)
- References – should follow required journal style (order/formatting)
- Other – Include dedication page, acknowledgements page, table of contents, footnotes, and appendixes as needed.
- Data – According to research standards, you are expected to retain your data for 5 years after date of publication, unless the work is grant funded, in which case the sponsor requirements supersede this.

WRITING SKILLS

The graduate project gives heavy weight to professional writing and organization, with the goals of developing graduate level work. Any student who cannot achieve that level may take it upon themselves to seek out additional help via a writing skills class or personal tutoring. While feedback on writing assignments will be provided, this graduate level project is not intended to be able to provide basic lessons on grammar and sentence structure. Students are encouraged to utilize the [UAB University Writing Center](#) to support the development of their professional writing. Additional information about classes offered at UAB or other resources is available from program directors.

OUTCOMES

Manuscript Paper: See details under next section “[Error! Reference source not found.](#)” This step applies to all students.

Oral Presentations and Exams: [Plan I students will hold a public defense of their thesis work as described here](#); [deadlines for scheduling your defense are here](#). Plan II students will be required to complete a 2-hr closed door oral exam with a minimum of two MHP faculty members. Both the public defense and oral exam shall be planned and scheduled by the student. For room reservations, contact the program manager. See timeline guidelines provided for this meeting in previous sections.

Project: Students who did not go through the IRB process have likely undertaken a project that involves creation of a product or event. The expectations for its use or distribution should be outlined in each student’s proposal and adhered to as planned.

Professional: All students are encouraged to submit a manuscript for publication in a professional journal and are given classroom opportunities for review of this by their instructors and committee.

SUBMITTING THE FINAL PRODUCT

Plan I students should refer to the “[Completion of a Degree](#)” and “[Your thesis and Dissertation](#)” webpages for details on the thesis requirements.

After the oral presentation of the student project to the project committee, plan II students submit a completed version of the project paper that includes any feedback from the committee during the oral presentation to their project advisor and program director to determine its acceptability.

Final electronic copies should be submitted to advisor and director. The project advisor will retain an electronic copy of the paper.

Plan II students do not submit their projects to the Graduate School. If original data was collected, the student will be encouraged to prepare a manuscript for submission to a journal or as an abstract for a professional meeting such as the HPS Annual Meeting. If the student decides not to submit for publication, then the student will be asked to complete a data release form so that the faculty may use the paper for preparing a manuscript/presentation.

Upon completion of all requirements and any further revisions, assuming the student is otherwise in good academic standing, the candidate is recommended for the master's degree to the Dean of the Graduate School using Plan I/II form completion process. The submission of all forms to the Graduate School must meet the established deadlines of the University.

Students and faculty/committees should note that the final version of the student's manuscript that is required for the graduate program (and described in this manual) may not be the same as the final version used ultimately for publication. If students/committees desire to publish their manuscript (which is encouraged but not required for the program) – revisions to the manuscript will likely be needed to fit with the specific journal requirements and the target length/audience of the journal chosen. Students may work on this second version while in the program but will also be required to submit a “program” version of their manuscript. Students will need feedback from all co-authors of both versions of the manuscript (Program and Publication versions).

ADVISING & MENTORING

The Program Director and faculty members are available to discuss the needs and concerns of MHP students. Students will meet with the program director a minimum of one time per semester. Additionally, an official exit interview at the completion of the program is required.

ADVISOR/MENTOR ASSIGNMENT PROCESS

In MHP 650, students will explore the various sectors of health physics. Part of this process includes meeting all MHP faculty and learning their areas of expertise and research interests. Students are matched with their primary faculty advisors during this course, but this can change depending on student/faculty interests and balance of workload for faculty.

EXPECTATIONS FOR FACULTY MENTORS AND STUDENTS

ADVISING OBJECTIVES

- Open lines of communication between students and supervisors.
- Provide the student a mentor with whom they can discuss problems, concerns, academic questions, or any other issues.
- Professional development.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE ADVISOR

- To meet with your students on a regular basis. The scheduling of these meetings is the responsibility of the student.

- To listen to their concerns, particularly global program issues, didactic coursework issues, supervised practice issues, and non-thesis/thesis research problems.
- To maintain a professional relationship with your students.
- To treat all students equitably.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE STUDENT

- To schedule and meet with your advisor on a regular basis, typically biweekly unless otherwise agreed in writing.
- To keep your advisor informed of your academic performance and any potential problems.
- To talk to your advisor about any problems with supervised practice or supervisors.
- To keep your advisor informed of your non-thesis/thesis research progress.

Students will also have additional faculty mentors as a part of their non-thesis/thesis research committee and their supervised practice. Meeting with your project and/or clinical supervisors should not substitute for communication with the director of the program. If you have a problem with your supervisor or project committee member, please speak to the program director. Should any student have an issue regarding the program director that they would like to discuss with a faculty member, they are encouraged to meet with the Chair of the Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences Department.

Students should always feel free to voice concerns or complaints about the program to the appropriate faculty member including course directors, academic advisors, the MHP Program Director, Director of Student Affairs, and Department Chair. If the student has a complaint or concern about a particular course, the student should first approach the course director. If the complaint is not resolved, the student should then approach the MHP Program Director. If the complaint is still not resolved, the student may approach the Department Chair. If the complaint is still not resolved, the student may approach the Associate Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs. If the complaint is still not resolved, the student should refer to the [UAB Student Complaint Policy](#).

POLICIES & STANDARDS

PROGRAM POLICIES

- All students in the program are required to participate in their professional society, the [Health Physics Society](#). Student membership is free the first year and \$42 the second year (as of 2026). Active participation in the HPS through attendance at annual meetings, committee membership, leadership in the local chapter(s), etc., is highly valuable. Through this involvement, students learn about cutting-edge health physics, network with peers and potential employers, and contribute to maintaining a vibrant community.
- All students are required to present at the HPS annual meeting (typically held annually in July) or similar approved alternative conference. This can be virtual or in person on a case-by-case basis. Limited funding for students is available through the Health Physics Society.

- Distance students are required to have brief monthly video conference check-in meetings with each MHP faculty member and their research advisor.
- All students, online and in person, are required to obtain the background check and drug screening detailed in Section 1 of this handbook, no exceptions.
- Students must ask MHP Faculty if they are willing to write a letter of recommendation (LOR) prior to submitting their names to the requesting body. Failure to ask will result in the decline of the LOR. The request must also include how many letters are required, who they are going to, and when they are due. This applies to all forms of references (job, graduate school, medical school, award, etc.). Students should remind the faculty member as the deadlines approach. Faculty members are not required to provide LORs.
- Upon matriculation into the program, each student will be provided an individual folder on the secure UAB SharePoint site. This folder is for your research notes, abstracts, presentations, your thesis or capstone document, and selected coursework as required for accreditation. This is where research advising notes will be kept and should be referred to often. The only individuals with access will be the individual student, program faculty, and the program manager.

EXPECTATIONS REGARDING ACADEMIC PROGRESS

The [Health Physics Program follows the UAB Graduate School's policies on academic progress, which can be found on their website](#). All dismissal decisions are final.

GRADE POLICIES AND ACADEMIC PROBATION & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Refer to individual course syllabi for the relevant grading scale and details on how grades are determined. A current student who receives an “F” in any required course while admitted to the health physics program will be dismissed from the program unless there are significant mediating circumstances that have been brought to the attention of the program director by the student in writing. In the case of extreme circumstances, the student will be suspended from the program rather than dismissed and must wait until the next time the course in which the failing grade was made is offered again. The student will then be allowed to take the course again. Under the recommendation of the program director, the student may be required to take remedial courses prior to repeating a health physics course. If the student passes the course, then the student may petition the program director for re-entry into the program. If the class size warrants, the student MAY be allowed to re-enter the program at the discretion of the program director. Re-entry into the health physics program is NOT guaranteed. If the student takes the course again and still fails to make a passing grade, the student will be dismissed from the program. Dismissal decisions are made by the program director in writing. Dismissal appeals should follow the [SHP Policy for Appeal of Dismissal](#).

PROFESSIONALISM EXPECTATIONS

All students are expected to read and abide by the HPS' [Code of Conduct](#) and the American Academy of Health Physics (AAHP) [Standards of Professional Responsibility for CHPs](#).

Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated. Professors are primarily your mentors and communications should reflect that relationship. If you have not heard back from your professor in one business day, it is appropriate to email them again. Address professors with their appropriate titles. Ensure that your question or issue is not readily answered by watching class lectures, talking to your fellow students, or via a simple Google search.

LAB & FIELDWORK SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Safety requirements for lab work will be discussed in MHP 610/612, Radiation Detection and Measurement with Lab. Students completing fieldwork will receive safety training appropriate to the site.

TRAINING & FACILITY ACCESS

Students interested in conducting research in one of the MHP labs will be required to complete all UAB Environmental Health & Safety and Radiation Safety trainings. These will be assigned prior to the student obtaining lab access.

FUNDING & FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Once the student is admitted to the Health Physics Program, the student may become eligible to apply for specific scholarships offered by the School of Health Professions as well as scholarships offered through the HPS. Links to each scholarship and grant can be found on the [HPS website](#). All students attending the HPS meeting are expected to apply for the HPS travel grant to help attend the HPS annual meeting.

PROFESSIONAL & STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Participation in the national [Health Physics Society](#) and local Alabama Chapter is a mandatory requirement of the program. These societies provide networking, continuing education, and camaraderie throughout your career. You get out of these organizations what you put into them!