Graduates will be able to:

1. Explain ways the health care team can empower the patient and/or family with decision-making skills about the patient’s health care needs by keeping patients and families central in the care planning process
2. Apply ethical principles to the care of patients of all ages and their families
3. Compare and contrast methods of effective care coordination in a variety of clinical settings to minimize cost and enhance health outcomes
4. Develop and demonstrate skills for effective communication and collaboration within the interprofessional team and across settings
5. Describe approaches to link complex patients with community resources that promote social justice and health
6. Develop and demonstrate skills to effectively facilitate and utilize timely, complete, effective and safe handoffs during care transitions for complex patients
7. Demonstrate how to maximize the utility of information systems to enhance care
8. Explain the overall infrastructure and regulation of U.S. health care and its effect on care coordination
9. Compare and contrast health care payment models as they relate to utilization review, compliance and reimbursement.

VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School and general academic policies and regulations for all graduate students in all graduate programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus, to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the Graduate School website and academic regulations in individual school and department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases, the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites, take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students.

Degree candidacy requirements

A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master’s or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy requirements of the student’s graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student’s faculty regarding the student’s academic achievements and the student’s readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on degree candidacy requirements.

Graduation requirements

As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on graduation requirements.

Apply online at graduate.admissions.vcu.edu (http://www.graduate.admissions.vcu.edu)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Semester(s) of entry</th>
<th>Deadline dates</th>
<th>Test requirements</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/Bulletins/prog_search/?
The minimum total of graduate credit hours required for this certificate is 15.

**Typical plan of study**

Many students often end up taking more than the minimum number of hours required for a degree program. The total number of hours may vary depending upon the program, the nature of research being conducted by a student, or in the enrollment or funding status of the student. Students should refer to the program website and talk with their graduate program directors or advisers for information about typical plans of study and registration requirements.

**Graduate program director**

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**Additional contact**

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Program website: ipe.vcu.edu (http://ipe.vcu.edu)