

College of Human Ecology Hospitality Management

Overview

The field of hospitality management is growing and dynamic, offering exciting career options worldwide. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that there will be an 1 percent growth in jobs for lodging managers by the year 2022, as well as a 2 percent growth for food service managers and a 33 percent increase in jobs for meeting, event and convention planners.

The median income for each of these areas is \$47,690 for food service managers; \$45,810 for meeting, event and convention planners; and \$46,810 for lodging managers. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that job opportunities in the hospitality field will be best for individuals with a bachelor's degree in hospitality management.

The mission of the hospitality management program at Kansas State University is to prepare students for professional careers in hospitality management by providing theory-based instruction and practical experience. Students receive a general education; an understanding of business administration; specialized technical knowledge of hotel, restaurant and food service, or event and convention management; and practical experience in the industry. Students can elect to receive a business minor as they complete the hospitality management degree requirements.

Professional options

Careers

A degree in hospitality management prepares students for management positions in catering and banquet services, full-service and quick-service restaurants, contract and on-site dining operations, private clubs, resorts, conventions,

hotels, motels, food and food service equipment sales, convention/event and meeting management, school food service, senior living services and many other areas.

Employers

Companies employing recent K-State graduates include:

- Convention and Visitors Bureau of Albuquerque, New Mexico
- ARAMARK Management Corp.
- Convention and Visitors Bureau of Greater Kansas City
- Darden Restaurants Inc., operators of Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, The Capitol Grille and Seasons 52
- Fairfield Inn
- Hilton Garden Inn
- Hyatt Hotels
- The Kansas City Country Club
- Indian Hills Country Club
- J. Alexander's Restaurants
- Marriott Hotels
- Panera Bread
- Jason's Deli
- Four Points by Sheraton
- The Tuxedo Club
- Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers
- Holiday Inn
- The Wellington Group
- PB&J Restaurants

Job experience

Hospitality management students obtain extensive experience in the field long before graduation. Practical experience may be obtained at work sites across the country and around the world. Students select sites in restaurants, clubs, hotels or other hospitality operations, depending on their specific interests and career plans.

During the program, students complete three field experience courses:

- HMD 275, typically taken at the sophomore level, requires 200 hours.
- HMD 375, 376 or 377, typically taken at the junior level, requires 300 hours.
- HMD 475, taken during the senior year, requires 400 hours.

Students also get excellent practical experience in on-campus food service facilities. Students

complete laboratories in facilities operated by K-State Housing and Dining Services. Professional staff members from Housing and Dining Services have faculty appointments.

Academics

Degree options

Students earn a Bachelor of Science degree in hospitality management. Students may select from three tracks, depending on their career goals:

- Food service and restaurant management
- Convention, meeting and event management
- Lodging management

Students interested in a graduate degree may consider the combined Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree program.

Accreditation

The hospitality management program at K-State has been accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration, or ACPHA, since 1994. Accreditation assures that the program provides a high-quality education to students and requires continual program evaluation and improvement. The program is the only ACPHA accredited program in the state of Kansas.

Preparation

High school algebra and practical work experience in the hospitality field are recommended. Cultural activities, travel and exposure to a wide variety of hotel and restaurant services also are encouraged.

Activities

Clubs

The hospitality management program sponsors four undergraduate student organizations:

- Club Managers Association of America
- Hospitality Management Society
- Professional Event Management Society
- Eta Sigma Delta, the hospitality management honor society

Through these organizations, students have the opportunity to network with industry

Points of pride

The hospitality management program at Kansas State University is the only program in Kansas accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration. The program is ranked among the 20 best hospitality programs in the U.S.

professionals, tour hospitality operations, attend professional meetings and develop leadership skills.

One long-standing tradition in the program is the K-State Travel and Dining Auction, a student-led event that allows students to develop management and leadership skills while raising money to support student organizations and scholarships. More information can be found at k-statetda.com.

Research

Faculty members in the program are engaged in research and have external funding to conduct research. This provides opportunities for undergraduate students to become actively involved in research related to their major. Students can apply for a paid undergraduate research assistantship.

Study abroad

Because hospitality is a global industry, students in the hospitality management program are encouraged to participate in an international experience.

The curriculum is planned so that students can study abroad for a full semester or a summer. Students also can participate in faculty-led international study abroad programs.

Previous students have studied in:

- Australia
- Czech Republic
- England
- Greece
- Italy
- New Zealand
- South Korea
- Northern Ireland
- France
- Costa Rica

Admissions Requirements

Incoming students apply to K-State through the general university admissions process. Students may apply online to the university at k-state.edu/admissions/apply. Students who meet the Kansas qualified admission requirements are prepared to enter the hospitality management program at K-State.

More information on the admission process can be found at the Department of Hospitality Management and Dietetics website at he.k-state.edu/hmd/programs/ugrad/hrm.

Financial assistance

Each year, the department awards multiple scholarships to students in the hospitality management program. Criteria for the scholarships vary depending on donor guidelines, but may include grade point average, work experience in the field and involvement in student activities. The K-State scholarship application process is used. Scholarship information and deadlines are announced to students using multiple methods.

Several industry scholarships are available. Students are encouraged to apply and are notified about availability and deadlines.

Suggested course work

A student earning a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management must complete 120 credit hours. Of that total, professional courses represent 34 hours, courses from the selected track represent 21 hours, and 15 hours are business support courses. The recommended freshman curriculum includes:

First semester

Hrs.	Course	
3	ENGL 100	Expository Writing I
3	MATH 100	College Algebra
	or	
3	College Calculus	
4	BIOL 198	Principles of Biology
2	COMM 105	Public Speaking IA
	or	
3	COMM 106	Public Speaking I
0	HMD 011	Orientation to HRM
3	HMD 120	Introduction to the Hospitality Industry

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Second semester

Hrs.	Course	
3	CHM 110	General Chemistry
1	CHM 111	General Chemistry Lab
3	ECON 110	Principles of Macroeconomics
1	GNHE 210	Foundations of Human Ecology
3	HN 132	Basic Nutrition
1	HMD 275	Structured Field Experience in HMD

2-3 Professional electives

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For more information about hospitality management, contact:

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For more information about Kansas State University, contact:

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785-532-6250
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k-state.edu/admission

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