

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (M.P.A.)

This program is designed to prepare students for careers in public service in government, nonprofit organizations, and private organizations. The curriculum emphasizes study of the environment of public service, management techniques, organizational dynamics, the policy process, and the analysis of public policies.

Accreditation

The program is accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration.

Admission Requirements

Admission to this program is contingent upon admission to the Graduate School (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/general-information/admission/>). Undergraduate preparation in the social sciences, although recommended, is not required. Applicants must have a 3.0 grade point average in the last sixty credits of undergraduate work to be considered for regular admission. In addition, scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) must be submitted, with the following exceptions:

1. Applicants with an undergraduate grade point average exceeding 3.29 need not submit GRE scores.
2. Applicants holding master's degrees in other fields and having graduate grade point averages of 3.30 or higher in their graduate degree work, need not submit GRE scores. Letters of Recommendation from previous instructors are welcome but not required.

A personal statement citing career goals and objectives is also required.

Program Requirements

The Master of Public Administration is offered under the following option:

Plan C: Thirty-seven credits (minimum) in course work.

Of the thirty-seven credits required for the degree, twenty-eight credits are earned in a required set of core courses within the Department. Students with significant administrative background may waive the supervised internship (PS 7310) upon approval from the program. All students must complete twenty-five credits of core requirements including:

Code	Title	Credits
PS 5630	Statistics and Data Analysis in Political Science I	4
PS 7300	Public Administration and its Environment	3
or PS 6700	Financial Management for Nonprofit Organizations	
PS 7310	Public Management Internship	3
PS 7320	Organization Theory and Behavior	3
PS 7330	Public Budgeting and Finance	3
PS 7340	Public Personnel Management	3
PS 7350	Managing Public Organizations and Programs	3
PS 7410	Policy Formation and Implementation	3
PS 7460	Program Evaluation	3
or PS 7660	Research Methods in Policy and Politics	
Plus 9 credits in electives		9
Total Credits		37

As part of the thirty-seven credits, students are also required to complete an area of concentration consisting of at least nine credits, which may

require course work outside of political science. Passage of a written comprehensive examination based on the core curriculum is also required to earn this degree.

A student's program is finalized in a Plan of Work that must be filed by the time the student has earned twelve credits. The student should consult the department's M.P.A. program director for guidance in preparing this Plan of Work.

Academic Scholarship: All course work must be completed in accordance with the regulations of the Graduate School (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/general-information/academic-regulations/>) and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/college-liberal-arts-sciences/academic-regulations/>).

No credit will be granted for courses taken at Wayne State prior to formal admission to the M.P.A. program without prior authorization of the M.P.A. Program Committee.

Areas of Concentration: Students in the M.P.A. program are required to select an area of concentration consisting of a minimum of nine credits of interrelated course work. Students must consult with, and secure the approval of, the M.P.A. program director prior to undertaking this part of the program, but students pursuing a specific career goal may use the Elective Option to design their own specialization. Areas of concentration include:

- Economic Development Policy and Management
- Health and Human Services Policy and Management
- Human and Fiscal Resource Management
- Non-Profit Policy and Management
- Organizational Behavior and Management
- Urban and Metropolitan Policy and Management
- Elective Option (individually tailored)

Graduate Certificate Programs: In conjunction with their degree work, M.P.A. students may also pursue a graduate certificate in the following programs.

- **Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management** (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/college-liberal-arts-sciences/political-science/nonprofit-management-graduate-certificate/>) administered by the M.P.A Program.
- **Graduate Certificate in Economic Development** (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/college-liberal-arts-sciences/urban-studies-planning/economic-development-graduate-certificate/>) administered by the Department Urban Studies and Planning.
- **Graduate Certificate in Gerontology** (<https://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/school-social-work/graduate-certificate-programs/gerontology-graduate-certificate/>) administered by the School of Social Work.