

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA) - GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION TRACK

Program Overview

The mission of the Public Administration Program at Columbus State University is to provide professional education and leadership skills for effective, efficient, and responsive public service necessary for individuals preparing for or currently serving in public service careers. The Master of Public Administration (MPA) is the degree for students with professional goals related to public service in areas such as government agencies, justice administration/law enforcement, not-for-profit organizations, and the private sector.

The MPA program offers classes in the evenings and on-line to accommodate students currently employed in the public sector as well as students seeking entry level positions. Columbus State University's Master of Public Administration Program offers curricular tracks in: Government Administration (can be completed entirely online) and Criminal Justice Administration).

The MPA program consists of 36 hours and offers flexible course scheduling, multiple entry points, in class and online options, and some 8-week course offerings. The program can be adapted for students who wish to attend part time or full time.

Career Opportunities

- Elected official (city council, mayor, governor, etc.)
- City manager
- Lobbyist
- Legislative assistant
- Foreign service, diplomatic, or consular officer
- Planner
- Census clerk
- Federal aid coordinator
- Election supervisor
- City, county or court clerk

Program of Study

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Area 1 Core		
MPAC 7106	Survey of Public Administration ¹	3
MPAC 7126	Public Budgeting and Financial Administration	3
MPAC 7136	Research Methods and Data Analytics	3
MPAC 7146	Organizational Theory, Management, and Leadership	3
MPAC 7156	Legal and Ethical Environment of Administration	3
MPAC 7766	Capstone Course in Public Administration (A grade of "B" or better is required in this course.) ²	3
Area 1 Total		
Area 2 Concentration		
Select 12 hours from the following list:		12
MPAG 7125	Policy Analysis	
MPAG 7128	Non-Profit Organization and Operations	

MPAG 7130	Negotiations and Conflict Management	
MPAG 7135	State and Local Governmental Relations	
MPAG 7140	City and County Management	
MPAG 7145	Grant Writing for Public Administration	
MPAG 7555	Selected Topics in Administration	
MPAG 7698	Internship	
MPAG 7899	Independent Study in Public Administration	
POLS 7167	American Political Process and Policy-making	
POLS 7177	National Security Policy	
POLS 7187	State and Local Government and Intergovernmental Relations	
POLS 7197	Comparative Administration	
Area 2 Total		30
Total Credit Hours		30

¹ Note: MPAC 7106 Survey of Public Administration must be taken in the student's first two semesters of the program.

² MPAC 7766 Capstone Course in Public Administration must be taken in the student's final semester and requires department approval.

Admission Requirements

Admissions Deadlines

Fall: June 30

Spring: November 30

Send the materials below to the CSU Admissions Office:

- Application (<https://admissions.columbusstate.edu/grad/>) + \$50 non-refundable application fee
- Immunization information (<https://admissions.columbusstate.edu/immunization-information.php>)
- Official transcript from each college and university attended
- Verification and proof of Lawful Presence (<https://admissions.columbusstate.edu/lawfulpresence.php>)

All applicants must submit

- A cumulative minimum grade point average of 2.75 in an acceptable earned baccalaureate degree is required.
- One letter of recommendation (PDF) (https://academics.columbusstate.edu/docs/MPA_recommendation_form_2017.pdf) from an employer, past professor, or another person familiar with the applicant's work.
- Statement of purpose which introduces the applicant to the program, outlines their interest in the program, their personal and professional goals, and the relevant work and/or life experiences that they feel qualifies them for the program.

Additional Program Requirements

The MPA degree is subject to the following requirements:

- All students must complete the common core for the degree.
- A minimum B average (3.0) in core courses, with no more than two Cs, and a minimum grade of B in elective courses are required for degree completion.
- A **maximum** of nine semester hours of credit, taken as a graduate student at an accredited graduate school, may apply toward a master's degree provided the credit was earned not more than seven

years prior to the date of completion of the degree. Grades of "C" or below will not be accepted as transfer credit.