

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION - M.P.A.

College of Sciences and Humanities
Department of Political Science
www.kent.edu/polisci/mpa

About This Program

Make a difference in your community with Kent State's Master of Public Administration degree. Our program prepares you for leadership roles in public service and equips you with the skills needed to drive positive change. Read more...

Contact Information

- Daniel E. Chand | dchand@kent.edu | 330-672-8939
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- Delivery:
 - Fully online

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Chief executives

- -10.0% decline
- 287,900 number of jobs
- \$185,950 potential earnings

General and operations managers

- 5.8% faster than the average
- 2,486,400 number of jobs
- \$103,650 potential earnings

Legislators

- 6.2% faster than the average
- 53,700 number of jobs
- \$33,200 potential earnings

Postmasters and mail superintendents

- -21.9% decline
- 13,400 number of jobs
- \$78,060 potential earnings

Social and community service managers

- 17.0% much faster than the average
- 175,500 number of jobs
- \$69,600 potential earnings

Transportation, storage, and distribution managers

- 3.5% about as fast as the average
- 139,400 number of jobs
- \$96,390 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale¹
- Official transcript(s)
- Current résumé
- Goal statement
- Writing sample (single-authored paper or manuscript completed during undergraduate or graduate school that exemplifies the applicant's critical thinking skills)
- Three letters of recommendation from faculty or individuals familiar with the applicant's ability to do graduate-level work
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following:²
 - Minimum 79 TOEFL iBT score
 - Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
 - Minimum 58 PTE score
 - Minimum 110 DET score

¹ In some cases, applicants with a GPA below 2.750 may be admitted to the program conditionally provided other supporting materials are strong.

² International applicants who do not meet the above test scores may be considered for conditional admission.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Spring Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Summer Term**
 - Rolling admissions

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

First Year		Credits
Fall Semester		
First Seven Weeks		
PADM 60371	GRADUATE INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
Second Seven Weeks		
PADM 60381	METHODS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
Credit Hours		6
Spring Semester		
First Seven Weeks		
PADM 60377	PUBLIC BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	3
Second Seven Weeks		
PADM 60375	PUBLIC PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	3
Credit Hours		6
Summer Term		
First Seven Weeks		
Major Elective		3
Second Seven Weeks		
Major Elective		3
Credit Hours		6
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
First Seven Weeks		
Major Elective		3
Second Seven Weeks		
PADM 60470	PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE	3
Credit Hours		6
Spring Semester		
First Seven Weeks		
PADM 60379	PROGRAM EVALUATION I	3
Second Seven Weeks		
Major Elective		3
Credit Hours		6
Summer Term		
Full Term		
PADM 60392	INTERNSHIP IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	0-3
First Second Weeks		
Major Elective		3
Second Seven Weeks		
PADM 60499	PORTFOLIO AND CAPSTONE	3
Credit Hours		6-9
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		36-39

Full Description

The Master of Public Administration degree in Public Administration is designed for students wishing to become policy analysts, managers and executives within public and nonprofit organizations. The curriculum provides students with a broad foundation in public and nonprofit management, including the scope and history of public administration, administrative theory, ethical behavior in public management, public financial management, program evaluation, methods, personnel management and information technology management.

The M.P.A. degree can be completed in two years by taking two courses each term, including summers. Courses are offered in an asynchronous online format in back-to-back seven-week sessions. Courses utilize a mix of web-based instruction supported by audio and video technologies direct to the respective student's home.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate ability to lead and manage in public governance.
2. Participate in and contribute to the policy process.
3. Analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions.
4. Articulate and apply a public service perspective.
5. Communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.