

» MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program educates public and nonprofit professionals seeking to advance their careers. The MPA curriculum combines theory and practice, so that students broaden their impact in the organizations and communities they serve.

SEATTLEU[®]
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



“I knew that a mid-level management role wasn’t going to be my final destination. I looked at a number of advanced degree programs and was excited to see that SU’s Master of Public Administration curriculum matched my professional needs and offered a lot of flexibility.”

| Jessi Bon, Class of 2003
| Director of Parks and Recreation, City of Sammamish

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program educates individuals for leadership and management in local, state, and federal government and the nonprofit sector.

THE CURRICULUM provides students with practical “hands-on” experience and best practices, focusing on organizational leadership, public policy, and program improvement.

THE PROGRAM is designed for working professionals; classes are offered in the evenings and on Saturdays.

OUR STUDENTS represent a diverse group of individuals working across public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

OUR FACULTY are experts in public policy and finance, leadership and management, environmental sustainability, and program evaluation.

THE PROGRAM is guided by the values of social justice, analytical rigor, ethical decision making, and service to communities.

Complete details are on our website.



“The key to being successful in public service depends on your ability to communicate policy and framework, understand group and organizational dynamics, and navigate relationships. I gained foundational skills to successfully work in two policy-oriented environments: the Washington State Budget & Policy Center and the City of Seattle.”

Karinda Harris, Class of 2012
Program Manager, Women’s Funding Alliance

CURRICULUM

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program requires the completion of 54 credits with a specialization in government or nonprofit.

SPECIALIZATION: 9 CREDITS

Three courses in government or nonprofit.

REQUIRED COURSES: 24 CREDITS

Foundations of Public Administration
Understanding Organizations
Policy Formation and Implementation
Management and Human Relations Skills
Financial Management and Control
Policy and Program Research
Economic Analysis
Capstone Project

CAPSTONE PROJECT: The capstone course integrates classroom learning with experiences gained from working with local agencies or employers. Students analyze a policy or management problem and make recommendations for courses of action.

ELECTIVES: 21 CREDITS

Sample courses:
Human Resource Management
Public Budgeting
Communication and Advocacy
Introduction to City Management
For-credit internship





“The coursework helped me advance in my career by teaching me theories and skills beyond what was offered by my employer. Classes challenged me to stretch my thinking and question my assumptions. This led directly to my development into a stronger candidate for a promotion at work.”

Andrew Chin, Class of 2014
Acting District Manager
Department of Social and Health Services

POLICY INCUBATOR COMPETITION **OUR ALUMNI**

Every year, MPA students submit papers proposing innovative public policy solutions to issues facing our region. Finalists present their papers to a panel of government and nonprofit leaders and receive direct feedback and recommendations from the judges.

OUR STUDENTS

Recent MPA students received coveted Presidential Management Fellowships working in federal agencies including the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Defense.

Our alumni go on to successful careers in local, state, and federal government, as well as nonprofit organizations.

Many of our alumni work closely with our program, including participating in the MPA mentorship program. This program connects students with alumni and community leaders who provide guidance for professional development.



“The people I met through the program—the staff, faculty, and classmates—were highly important to my personal and professional development. I was able to share ideas, debate real-life topics, and engage in serious dialogue about important issues. Those discussions and the technical skills gained have enabled me to serve others well.”

| Steve Wright, Class of 2006
| Executive Director, Northwest Parkinson’s Foundation

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The curriculum challenges public and nonprofit professionals to expand their thinking around social justice issues.

- Students gain practical tools to make an impact in their organizations and the communities they serve.
- Instruction is designed for working professionals; class projects can be applied to the workplace.
- Faculty hold leadership positions in state and local governments and nonprofit organizations.
- Our network of nearly 2,000 alumni work in local, state, and federal agencies and nonprofit organizations.
- The MPA Connections mentorship program promotes personal growth and professional development by connecting students with alumni and community leaders in public and nonprofit sectors.
- Scholarships available.

ADMISSIONS

We encourage you to attend an information session, visit a class, or meet with a faculty member or alumnus of our program to learn more. For complete admission criteria, application procedures, and scholarships, visit our website.

QUALIFICATIONS

Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.

Minimum 3.0 grade point average.

One year of professional work experience.

Applications are accepted for start dates in summer, fall, winter, and spring quarters.

CONTACT INFORMATION

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

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Website: www.seattleu.edu

Toll Free: 1-800-426-7123

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Institute of Public Service

Phone: 206-296-5440

Email: mpa@seattleu.edu

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STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

Phone: 206-220-8020

Email: financialservices@seattleu.edu

Website: www.seattleu.edu/sfs

Nondiscrimination Policy

Seattle University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political ideology or status as a Vietnam-era or special disabled veteran in the administration of any of its education policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletics, and other school-administered policies and programs, or in its employment related policies and practices. In addition, the University does not discriminate on the basis of genetic information in its employment related policies and practices, including coverage under its health benefits program.

All University policies, practices and procedures are administered in a manner consistent with Seattle University's Catholic and Jesuit identity and character. Inquiries relating to these policies may be referred to the University's Vice President for Human Resources and University Services and Equal Opportunity Officer at (206) 296-5870.

Consistent with the requirements of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and its implementing regulations, Seattle University has designated individuals responsible for coordinating the University's Title IX compliance. Students or employees with concerns or complaints about discrimination on the basis of sex in employment or an education program or activity may contact the following: Helaina Sorey, Director of Professional and Organizational Development, Equal Opportunity Office, Title IX Coordinator, Human Resources Department-Rianna Building, 206-398-4627, soreyh@seattleu.edu; and Michele Murray, PhD, Vice President for Student Development, Title IX Contact Person, Student Center 140B, 206-296-6066, mmurray@seattleu.edu. Individuals may also contact the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education.