Department Mission

A flexible program designed for full- and part-time students, the M.P.A. program offers:

- Individual attention – Students work on applied research projects under the direction of a faculty member. M.P.A. students have won national and regional research awards.
- Professional development – M.P.A. students and faculty are active leaders in regional professional associations and networking groups.
- Internship opportunities – Pre-service students have internship placement opportunities in state and local government and the nonprofit sector. These internships are often paid and provide meaningful management and policymaking experience.
- Employment opportunities – Students have excellent opportunities for job placement in one of the nation’s fastest-growing regions.

The M.P.A. program sharpens the passions and talents you already possess and shows you how to go from theory to implementation. What I learned and experienced within the program has been very useful in my career as a public servant and elected official.

– Ron Davis, Travis County Commissioner, Precinct 1

Department of Political Science

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Public Administration
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (M.P.A.)

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The program cultivates practical, research-oriented students for careers as reflective practitioners guided by democratic values, integrity and service.
**Why choose Texas State?**
Public administration faculty have been recognized nationally for their contribution to outstanding teaching, research, and service. The faculty leads practical research projects to inform public management and public policy in the region. The M.P.A. program is accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA).

**Course Work**
The master of public administration degree is a 39-hour program consisting of a core of 30 hours (including a 3-hour written applied research project course). The remaining 9 hours are taken from a career support area selected from the following: general public administration, local and state government management, urban policy and planning, environment, energy and sustainability, nonprofit sector leadership, human resources and labor relations. A 3-hour public service internship is required for pre-service students who lack public sector experience.

**Faculty**
The program’s faculty brings a wide range of perspectives, skills and experiences to the classroom. Some faculty members have significant experience with local, state or national government. The faculty consists of scholars whose accomplishments include books, journal articles, government-funded research and sponsored projects, conference papers, technical reports and presentations. The program’s faculty also encourages student research and publication in professional journals and magazines.

**Career Options**
M.P.A. graduates have successful careers in management positions in city, county, state and national government as well as the private and nonprofit sectors. Their achievements reflect the diversity, challenges and opportunities in the public sector, and these alumni are a valuable resource to current M.P.A. students and faculty. The M.P.A. program director and the career support area faculty coordinators provide internship and job placement assistance.

**Important Deadlines**

*Admissions*
- Priority Fall: February 1
- Fall: June 15
- Spring: October 15
- Summer: April 15
- Summer midterm: June 1

Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.

*Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships*
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

**How to Apply**
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit: [gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply](http://gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply)

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at: [gradcollege.txstate.edu/international](http://gradcollege.txstate.edu/international)*