The master of public administration program’s mission is to cultivate practical, research-oriented students for careers as reflective practitioners guided by democratic values, integrity and service.

Class sizes are small, usually between 15 and 25 students. Small class sizes enable rich and frequent contact between students and faculty. Students’ varied academic backgrounds and work experiences enrich classroom discussions.

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.

Classes are typically offered one evening per week, either on the main campus in San Marcos or at sites in North Austin and Round Rock.

The Texas State M.P.A program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration.

“The Texas State M.P.A. program strengthened my impact on the legislative process, deepened my understanding of how public administration affects ordinary people, and enabled me to assume a leadership role both in government and as an advocate for physicians and healthcare.”

—Michelle Romero  PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ALUMNA
**Course Work**
The master of public administration degree is a 39-hour program consisting of a core of 30 hours, including a three-hour written applied research project. The remaining nine hours are taken from a career support area selected from the following:
- Administration of Criminal Justice Systems
- General Public Administration
- Government Information Systems
- Social Policy
- International Relations
- Legal and Judicial Administration
- Public Finance Administration
- Human Resources in Public Administration
- Urban and Environmental Planning

A three-hour public service internship is required for pre-service students in the M.P.A. program.

The 30-hour M.P.A. core includes the following courses:
- Public Finance Administration
- Organization Theory
- Problems in Public Personnel Administration
- Public Management and Ethics
- Introduction to Public Policy & Administration
- Problems in Public Law
- Problems in Quantitative Analysis
- Problems in Research Methodology
- Applied Research Project

And one course from the following:
- Problems in American Public Policy
- Seminar in the Policy Process
- Seminar in Program Evaluation

**Faculty**
The faculty bring a wide range of perspectives, skills and experiences to the classroom. Faculty members have significant experience with local, state or national government. The faculty consists of scholars whose accomplishments include books, journal articles, conference papers, consultant reports and presentations.

**Admission Policy**
All applicants must hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA on the last 60 undergraduate semester hours of letter-grade work earned before receipt of their bachelor’s (plus any previously completed graduate or professional work) is required.

Each applicant must submit the following to the Graduate College:
- the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
- application fee
- one official transcript from each college or university attended

International students must submit a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Internet-based (iBT) score with at least a total minimum score of 78 or an IELTS score of 6.5 of higher with a minimum individual module score of 6.0.

Students may be considered for conditional admission. The LSAT may be substituted for the GRE. For more information, please see [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/padm](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/padm).

Visit [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply) for access to an online application and additional details. Admission deadlines are June 15 for the fall semester, October 15 for the spring semester and April 15 for the summer semester.

**Financial Assistance**
Graduate assistant positions are available for students through the Department of Political Science. Interested students should write or call the department for applications.

For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College website at [www.gradcollege.txstate.edu](http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu) and click on *Financing Your Graduate Education*. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

**Contact**
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