

# PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION - M.P.A.

College of Sciences and Humanities  
 Department of Political Science  
[www.kent.edu/polisci/mpa](http://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

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- Connect with an Admissions Counselor

## Program Delivery

- Delivery:
  - Fully online

## Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries\*

### Chief executives

- 4.3% about as fast as the average
- 309,400 number of jobs
- \$206,420 potential earnings

### General and operations managers

- 4.4% about as fast as the average
- 3,712,900 number of jobs
- \$102,950 potential earnings

### Legislators

- 3.4% about as fast as the average
- 27,700 number of jobs
- \$44,810 potential earnings

### Postmasters and mail superintendents

- -3.5% decline
- 13,100 number of jobs
- \$92,730 potential earnings

### Social and community service managers

- 6.4% faster than the average
- 219,800 number of jobs
- \$78,240 potential earnings

## Transportation, storage, and distribution managers

- 6.1% faster than the average
- 216,700 number of jobs
- \$102,010 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 scale<sup>1</sup>
- 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:<sup>2</sup>
  - Minimum 79 TOEFL iBT score
  - Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
  - Minimum 58 PTE score
  - Minimum 110 DET score

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

<sup>2</sup> 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

## Program Requirements

### Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
PADM 60371	GRADUATE INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
PADM 60375	PUBLIC PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	3

PADM 60377	PUBLIC BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	3
PADM 60379	PROGRAM EVALUATION I	3
PADM 60381	METHODS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
PADM 60392	INTERNSHIP IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION <sup>1</sup>	0-3
PADM 60470	PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE	3
Major Electives, choose from the following:		15
Any Public Administration (PADM) Graduate course (50000 or 60000 level)		
Other elective courses with advisor approval <sup>2</sup>		
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
PADM 60499	PORTFOLIO AND CAPSTONE	3
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>36-39</b>

<sup>1</sup> Students without substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization ("pre-service students") must complete minimum 3 credit hours of internship; they will earn the M.P.A. degree with a total 39 credit hours. Students with substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization ("in-service students") may be waived from the internship requirement with the approval of the M.P.A. coordinator. Pre-service students or students wishing to gain experience in a new area will also be placed in an agency for at least 300 hours of experience.

<sup>2</sup> Elective coursework outside of the program may be selective based upon the student's needs and advisor approval.

## Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
-	3.000

## 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
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
<b>First Seven Weeks</b>		
PADM 60377	PUBLIC BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	3
<b>Second Seven Weeks</b>		
PADM 60375	PUBLIC PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
<b>First Seven Weeks</b>		
PADM 60371	GRADUATE INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
<b>Second Seven Weeks</b>		
PADM 60381	METHODS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Summer Term</b>		
<b>First Seven Weeks</b>		
Major Elective		3
<b>Second Seven Weeks</b>		

Major Elective		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
<b>First Seven Weeks</b>		
PADM 60379	PROGRAM EVALUATION I	3
<b>Second Seven Weeks</b>		
Major Elective		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
<b>First Seven Weeks</b>		
Major Elective		3
<b>Second Seven Weeks</b>		
PADM 60470	PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE	3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Summer Term</b>		
<b>Full Term</b>		
PADM 60392	INTERNSHIP IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	0-3
<b>First Second Weeks</b>		
Major Elective		3
<b>Second Seven Weeks</b>		
PADM 60499	PORTFOLIO AND CAPSTONE	3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>6-9</b>
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>36-39</b>

## 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.

## Dual Degree with M.P.H. in Health Policy and Management

Students have the opportunity to complete a dual degree program with the M.P.A. degree in Public Administration and the M.P.H. degree in Health Policy and Management. A separate application must be submitted for each program. Students can view admission requirements for each program on their respective catalog page.

The M.P.A./M.P.H. Health Policy and Management dual degree program prepares students to work at the intersection of public administrative policy and healthcare policy. The integrated curriculum is designed to help students develop real-world knowledge and skills needed to pursue successful careers in this complex landscape.

## Dual Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
BST 62019	BIOSTATISTICS IN PUBLIC HEALTH	3

EHS 62018	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONCEPTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH	3
EPI 62017	FUNDAMENTALS OF PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGY	3
HPM 62016	PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION	3
HPM 63003	HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS	3
HPM 63004	PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY, LAW AND ETHICS	3
HPM 63005	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS	3
HPM 63006	COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS	3
HPM 63007	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS: PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION	3
HPM 63020	COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT	3
PADM 60371	GRADUATE INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
PADM 60375	PUBLIC PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	3
PADM 60377	PUBLIC BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	3
PADM 60379	PROGRAM EVALUATION I	3
PADM 60381	METHODS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	3
PADM 60392	INTERNSHIP IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION <sup>1</sup>	0-3
PADM 60470	PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE	3
PH 61199	INTEGRATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE	1
SBS 64634	SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH BEHAVIORS	3
Major Electives, choose from the following:		9
Any Biostatistics (BST) Graduate course (50000 level or higher)		
Any Environmental Health Sciences (EHS) Graduate course (50000 level or higher)		
Any Epidemiology (EPI) Graduate course (50000 level or higher)		
Any Health Policy and Management (HPM) Graduate course (50000 level or higher)		
Any Public Administration (PADM) Graduate course (50000 level or higher)		
Any Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) Graduate course (50000 level or higher)		
Other elective courses with advisor approval		
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
HPM 60392	APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE IN HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT <sup>2</sup>	2
PADM 60499	PORTFOLIO AND CAPSTONE	3
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>69</b>

hours for HPM 60492 do not apply toward the minimum total credit hours for the dual degree.

## 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.

<sup>1</sup> Students without substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization ("pre-service students") must complete minimum 3 credit hours of PADM 60392; they will earn the dual degree with 69 total credit hours. Students with substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization ("in-service students") may have PADM 60392 waived with the approval of the M.P.A. coordinator. Pre-service students or students wishing to gain experience in a new area will also be placed in an agency for at least 300 hours of experience. Students who are deemed eligible to have PADM 60392 waived may graduate with fewer than 69 credit hours, but no fewer than 66 total credit hours.

<sup>2</sup> It is expected that students enrolled in HPM 60392 who do not complete the course in one term will continuously register for HPM 60492 each semester, until all requirements have been met. Credit