More about our program...

About our students

Our student body includes:

- Full- and part-time students
- International students
- Recent undergraduates and non-traditional students

Most of our courses are offered in the evenings (5:30 p.m. and after) to accommodate working students.

Our students and alumni include many current local government professionals.

About our faculty

Instructors for the LGM program include core faculty who hold joint appointments in Public Policy Administration and related fields including economics, political science, and business administration, as well as adjunct faculty who work in local government. Adjunct faculty bring considerable professional, educational, and teaching experience and play an important role in connecting our students with the professional community.

Don’t take our word for it, here’s what our alumni say...

“There isn’t a day that goes by that I don’t recall or rely on the information I learned in at least one of the courses I took as part of the MPPA program.”
- Nathan Schauf, MPPA/LGM ’13
  City Administrator, City of Owensville, Mo.

“The program was a great choice for me. I had an MBA and was already working in local government but really needed the specialized knowledge that the Local Government Management Certificate curriculum provided.”
- Sandra Haynes, LGM Certificate ’11
  Former City Clerk, Des Peres, Mo.

“My internships have provided me with practical, hands-on experiences and skills that make me a better communicator, policy analyst and public servant.”
- Gabby Macaluso, MPPA/LGM ’13
  Communications Manager,
  City of Maryland Heights, Mo.

The Department of Public Policy Administration at UMSL participates in the Local Government Partnership, a collaborative effort between PPA, the Center for Ethics in Public Life at UMSL and the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

Susan Spiegel, MPPA/LGM ’13
Director of Public Works, City of Wentzville, Mo.

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CERTIFICATE IN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MANAGEMENT

“Certificate in
Local Government
Management”

UMSL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC POLICY ADMINISTRATION

314.516.5145
umsl.edu/ppa
The Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management (LGM) is part of Public Policy Administration at UMSL.

The LGM certificate is designed for those who are looking for a graduate-level credential that is specifically focused on the topics and skills necessary to succeed in the local government arena. Certificate students include elected and non-elected local government officials or those looking to move into local government careers who may already hold a graduate degree but need this more specialized knowledge.

The 18-credit hour graduate certificate includes 12 credit hours of required core courses, a 3-credit elective and a local government internship. If an internship waiver is granted, students take an additional 3-credit elective.

Curriculum Highlights

Core Courses (12 credit hours)
- Seminar in City Administration (PPA 6340) or Issues in Urban Management (PPA 6350)
- Proseminar in Urban Politics (POL SCI 6470) or Seminar in Urban Politics (POL SCI 6471)
- Human Resources in the Public Sector (PPA 6490)
- Governmental Budgeting & Financial Control (PPA 6180)

Elective (3 credit hours)
Students select a 3-credit-hour elective from an array of pre-approved courses in criminology, economics, political science, and public policy administration according to their personal interests and career goals.

Internship (3 credit hours)
LGM certificate students are required to complete a 3-credit-hour local government internship. LGM students work with our internship coordinator to identify a placement in a local government setting that provides an individualized practical experience. In certain circumstances the internship may be waived. Students pursuing both a certificate and a master’s degree may work with our internship coordinator to design an internship that meets the requirements for both credentials.

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