OUR STUDENTS

As a graduate-level course of study, the NPML program includes students taking classes on a full-time basis as well as non-traditional students going to school part-time. Most classes are offered in the evening to accommodate those working during the day: selected courses are offered in an online format. The student body is diverse in age, gender, ethnicity, country of origin and level of nonprofit experience.

OUR FACULTY

The NPML faculty includes academic researchers as well as adjunct instructors working in the field who hold professional designations such as Advanced Certified Fundraising Executive (ACFRE) and Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

ADMISSIONS

The NPML certificate program adheres to the same academic standards as other graduate programs. Applicants to the NPML certificate program must have an undergraduate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Exceptions are considered based on the applicant’s professional experience. Two letters of recommendation are required, preferably with at least one letter from an applicant’s previous college-level instructor. Applicants must submit a two-page personal statement explaining how the certificate program fits in with the applicant’s educational and professional goals.

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

“I especially appreciated the exposure to social science research. It puts the concept of ‘best practices’ in a whole new light.”
— Marci Eisen, NPML Certificate ’09
Director, I.E.
Millstone Jewish Leadership Institute

“I have put this knowledge to use every day on my job!”
— Meredith Albus, NPML/MPPA ’13
Development Director
Boys Hope Girls Hope

WITH MASTER’S DEGREE

The NPML Graduate Certificate can be taken as a stand-alone credential or in conjunction with a master’s degree in Public Policy Administration (MPPA) or Social Work (MSW). With advance planning, all 18 credit hours from the certificate can be applied to the MPPA or the MSW. However, completion of the NPML certificate does not guarantee acceptance into the MPPA or MSW degree programs, which require a separate application process.

Nonprofit Management & Leadership

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Recognized by the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council

“Don’t take our word for it, here’s what our alumni say…”

“In the four years it took me to go through your program, I went from a VISTA Volunteer, to a Program Manager...Your educational teachings have helped project me into the career I wanted.”
— Katie Bench
NPML Certificate ’13
VISTA Services Manager
Mission: St. Louis
Since 1993, the NPML program has trained hundreds of nonprofit professionals. The program teaches them the skills they need to be more efficient and effective in their positions, and also helps them stand out when applying for jobs and promotions.

NPML is guided by academic experts and an advisory board comprised of some of the most respected names in the nonprofit sector in the region. It is constantly evolving to meet the needs of the independent sector through a variety of programs. The NPML program at UMSL is the only graduate program in nonprofit education in the St. Louis area with full membership in the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council (NACC), which develops standards for nonprofit education.

In addition to the Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management & Leadership, NPML offers a wide variety of professional development workshops to keep everyone from experienced executives, board members, staff and volunteers to new employees and even those just entering the field up-to-date on the latest trends and issues in the nonprofit sector.

The NPML program is one of several within the Public Policy Administration (PPA) Program at UMSL. The PPA program also offers a Master’s Degree, Certificates in Local Government Management and in Policy and Program Evaluation, plus professional development programs for the public sector.

About the UMSL NPML Program

Curriculum Highlights

Graduate Certificate — 18 credit hours total

Core Courses (9 credit hours)
- Leadership & Management in Nonprofit Organizations (6300), – 3 credit hours
- American Philanthropy & Nonprofit Resources Development (6310), – 3 credit hours
- Staff Management Issues in Nonprofit Organizations (6311), – 1 credit hour
- Legal Issues in Nonprofit Organizations (6312), – 1 credit hour
- Financial Issues in Nonprofit Organizations (6313), – 1 credit hour

Electives (6 credit hours)

Students select 2 courses for a total of 6 credit hours from a wide array of pre-approved courses in business, communication, psychology, public policy, social work, and sociology according to their personal interests and career goals.

Internship (3 credit hours)

After completing the core coursework, NPML students work with the internship coordinator to identify a placement in a nonprofit setting which provides an individualized practical experience. The internship can be customized to meet the requirements for both the certificate and master’s degree. In certain circumstances the internship may be waived.

Our Advisory Board

Dick Goldbaum Consultant, Transitions in Leadership
Baorong Guo Ph.D. Program Director, School of Social Work, UM-St. Louis
David Hilliard Nonprofit Advisor, Wyman Center
Jack Kerber Senior Vice President Events & Campaigns, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri
Chris Krehmeyer President and CEO, Beyond Housing
Harold Meiser Owner, HM Consulting
Mary McMurtrey President, Gateway Center for Giving
Laurie Phillips Chief Executive Officer, St. Patrick Center
Patricia Rich Principal, EMD Consulting Group
Amy Rome Principal, The Rome Group
Peter Ruger Attorney, Washington University
Faith Sandler Executive Director, Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis
Courtney Simms Director of Development, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri
Julie Simon Agency Consulting & Training Services Manager, United Way of Greater St. Louis
Dan Sise Interim Director, Public Policy Administration, UM-St. Louis
Sean Thomas Owner, Vibrant Communities Consulting, LLC
Patricia Zahn Community Outreach and Engagement Manager, Des Lee Collaborative Vision, UM-St. Louis