



Master of

Public Policy and Administration

Improving society starts with making positive change from within.

It's a great thing to be civic-minded and work for positive change. But a master's degree in Public Policy Administration (MPPA) gives you the knowledge and skills to be both strategic and effective in helping others and improving society at the community, state, national and international levels.

The Master of Public Policy and Administration

The MPPA program at the University of Missouri–St. Louis is an interdisciplinary program designed to prepare students for managerial and policy analysis positions in public, nonprofit and related organizations.

Accredited by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA), UMSL's MPPA is ranked by U.S. News & World Report in the top third of all graduate public affairs programs, and is the highest ranked in the St. Louis region. What's more, the website NoGRE.com recently named UMSL to its list of the 30 Best NASPAA-Accredited MPPA programs – the only program in Missouri to make the list.

The MPPA program at UMSL consists of 40 credit hours, 25 of which are taken as part of the core curriculum and 15 that are electives. Upon completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

- Design, research and analyze substantive public policy problems and solutions.
- Use data and sophisticated analytic tools to conduct research in public policy and administration.
- Understand the policy and internal/external environments of public and nonprofit organizations.
- Develop expertise in a substantive area of public policy administration.

Students may select one of three emphasis areas (Policy Research and Analysis, Local Government Management, and Nonprofit Organization Management and Leadership) or an individualized emphasis after consulting with their advisor and with approval of the department director.

2+3 BS/MPPA Dual Degree Program

The MPPA at UMSL is also offered in the 2+3 program format. This unique 2+3 dual degree program provides a pathway for students to earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree in public policy and administration with fewer total credit hours than would be required to complete each degree independently. Once all requirements have been met, students will be awarded both a BS and an MPPA and are able to enter the job market with a competitive edge.

Transforming Lives

The Master of Public Policy and Administration degree at UMSL is earned through our College of Arts and Sciences, the academic core of the University of Missouri–St. Louis. Through academic programs offered on- and off-campus, traditional and nontraditional students gain the knowledge, skills and leadership necessary for a variety of career paths, advanced study and research in many academic disciplines.

Graduates are known for their professionalism on the job and their strong sense of civic responsibility. Students in our programs engage in creative and critical thinking, learn to analyze evidence, to appreciate patterns of complexity and to reflect on important issues that impact our daily lives. Students gain skill sets to prepare for a changing workplace that requires flexible, dynamic and well-educated employees.

Top college for student voting.

Washington Monthly named UMSL one of the top colleges for student voting in the inaugural list in 2018, as well as in 2019, 2020 and 2022. Students can enhance their experience by joining the Political Science Graduate Student Association, which organizes alumni network and other campus events. Students may also access our PPA alumni network, who are highly active in the St. Louis region and provide internships, hands-on training and job opportunities.

Serious education. Serious value.

The MPPA is designed to provide specialized knowledge, skills and training in a flexible format. Courses are taught in the evening to be compatible with students who work during the day. What's more, you'll learn from highly qualified educators and researchers who hold terminal degrees from some of the world's most prestigious academic institutions.

The University of Missouri–St. Louis provides the knowledge, resources, tools, skills and support students need to be successful in our programs. Our comprehensive student support services include workshops, tutoring and career services to help you develop skills and strategies to be successful in the classroom and beyond. We're also committed to increasing access to higher education, and as such, UMSL is consistently ranked number one in affordability in the St. Louis region.

Learn more at polisci.umsl.edu

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is the largest public research university located in Missouri's most populous and economically important region. UMSL provides high-quality, affordable education to one of the most diverse student bodies in the state. No university is better connected to the surrounding region than UMSL. More than 75% of our graduates stay in St. Louis. The region needs a well-equipped workforce, and UMSL is prepared to help you meet those needs. Choose the University of Missouri–St. Louis for public policy and administration.

Career Opportunities

Budget Analyst
Consultant
HR Manager
Nonprofit Administrator
Policy Advocate
Policy Analyst
Program Manager
Public Affairs Specialist
Public Policy Director
Research Analyst

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