

GRADUATE

SIUE

Public Administration

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Public Administration
and Policy Analysis



siue.edu/grad/public-administration

Master of Public Administration at SIUE

This graduate program leads to the Master of Public Administration (MPA), a professional degree designed to prepare students for management careers in the public and nonprofit sectors.

SIUE's **nationally accredited MPA program** serves two types of students:

- Pre-service students who have recently completed a bachelor's degree and wish to use the master's degree to gain entry into a professional career track
- In-service students who have worked for several years in the public or nonprofit sector, but wish to pursue graduate education to enhance or upgrade their skills and knowledge

Program Format

Offered in two convenient course formats, the MPA degree may be earned in as little as 12 months.

1. **Fully Online:** All coursework is completed online. Students will use a consistent online learning platform for seamless transition between courses.
2. **Hybrid:** This option includes face-to-face, online and blended courses. Students utilize online learning tools combined with classroom experiences to complete the program.

Accreditation

Certificate of Accreditation by the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA)

Globally, only 202 programs have successfully met the standards set for NASPAA accreditation.



Degrees Available at SIUE

- Master of Public Administration

Please note that international students are not eligible to receive a student visa for this program.

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

- Professional Leadership Strategies

Combined Degree

- Accelerated Combined BA or BS in Political Science and Master of Public Administration

What can I do with a degree in public administration?

All industries benefit from strong leadership, which makes graduates of MPA programs in high demand. Historically, graduates of SIUE's MPA program have been very competitive in the job market, and many benefit from the department's strong network with employers in Illinois and the St. Louis metropolitan area. Employment opportunities include:

- City manager
- Finance director
- Policy analyst
- Department head in the public sector
- Administrator in the nonprofit sector
- Healthcare administrator

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What can I do with a degree in public administration? Cont.

- Military staff and line commander
- Police/fire chief
- Recreation director
- Museum director
- Social service staff and/or manager

MPA graduates are also employed in a number of state and federal agencies, including:

- Illinois State Police
- Illinois Secretary of State Police
- Department of Homeland Security
- Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Justice

Local and state governments are among the largest employers in the economy and job prospects are favorable. Job growth will stem from the rising demand for services at the local and state level, particularly demand for public safety and health services.

Two factors are fueling the growth of these services:

- Increasing population
- Assumption of responsibility by local and state governments for services previously provided by the federal government

Local and state jobs, however, are susceptible to budgetary constraints, which is why **advanced degrees are highly recommended in order to compete.**

Admission Requirements

- Graduate School application and \$40 fee
- Submission of all postsecondary academic transcripts
- Successful completion of a bachelor's degree prior to enrollment
- Unconditional admission to the program requires an overall undergraduate GPA of at least 2.7 on a 4.0 scale, or a GPA of 3.0 for the last two years.
- Applicants with an overall undergraduate GPA between 2.5 and 2.7 may be required to take a test administered by the Department of Public Administration to evaluate their writing and analytical skills. Based on the results of this test, the program director may require students to submit scores from standardized examinations such as Graduate Record Exam (GRE), Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), or Miller Analogies Test (MAT); and/or resumes summarizing their work experience over the last 10 years.
- International Applicants: Proof of English Proficiency, minimum requirements are TOEFL (79), IELTS (6.5) or equivalent
- Applicants who are denied admission may request a review of their credentials by the department's Student Appeals Committee.
- An undergraduate background in the social sciences or business administration is useful, but not required.

Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended, and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions office with questions regarding the application submission process at graduateadmissions@siue.edu.

Graduation Requirements

Students must receive a passing grade on a comprehensive exit examination. To sit for the examination, students must have a GPA of 3.0 in the MPA core courses and program overall. Students must also submit two papers written during their coursework as evidence of their writing skills prior to taking the comprehensive examination. Students must complete the MPA program with a GPA of 3.0 in the core courses and in the MPA program overall.

Required Credit Hours/Tuition and Fees

- 39
- Visit siue.edu/graduate-tuition for detailed tuition information

Curriculum

The MPA requires the completion of at least 39 semester hours with a GPA of 3.0 or higher distributed as follows:

Required core courses (21 hours) with a minimum of 3.0 GPA in core coursework:

- PAPA 420: Quantitative Analysis
- PAPA 500: Fundamentals of Public and Nonprofit Administration
- PAPA 501: Public Organizations
- PAPA 510: E-Government and Cybersecurity
- PAPA 530: Public Budgeting
- PAPA 540: Public and Nonprofit Human Resource Administration
- PAPA 550: Public Policy: Context, Process, & Analysis

Area of emphasis courses (18 hours): Chosen from an approved list of public administration courses in areas such as general administration, public management, nonprofit management, human resource administration, safety and security, and leadership.

Unclassified graduate students may take PAPA courses only with the permission of either the department chair or the MPA program director.

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Contact Information

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