

# MPA - Master of Public Administration

The faculty in the Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs recruit students for the Master of Public Administration degree who are highly qualified and motivated to serve in positions of leadership in public and nonprofit organizations. A mix of preservice and inservice students are recruited for the degree program. Preservice students are generally those who have recently graduated with a baccalaureate degree, have limited work experience, and want to work toward a degree on a full-time basis. Inservice students are generally those who have relevant work experience and want to continue working while pursuing a degree on a part-time basis.

The Master of Public Administration degree is designed for students to begin study in the fall semester. Admission is on a rolling basis, but the deadline for consideration for an assistantship or fellowship is April 1 for fall, and November 1 for spring. The program can be completed online or on campus.

## Admission

Admission to the Master of Public Administration degree requires students to have completed an undergraduate degree from a regionally accredited college or university and have a grade point of at least a 3.000 (4.000 system) in the last 60 credit hours of coursework, including any postgraduate work. International students must attain a minimum score of 575 paper-based, or 88 Internet-based on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or an overall band score of 7.0 on the IELTS, or a score of 65 on the PTE-Academic.

## Application requirements:

1. Applicants must submit the online application through the Graduate School website. Students will be asked, as a part of that application, to upload/provide the following:
  - a. Copies of official transcripts from all schools previously attended;
  - b. A letter of application outlining a student's career plans and how the MPA degree would further those plans;
  - c. A resume including the student's work and volunteer experience; and
  - d. Contact information for two people with direct knowledge of a student's work experience or academic performance, to provide letters of reference.

*Note:* Students are required to have an intermediate level of skill or better using word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software programs. Programs such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint, which are provided on the Wichita State University campus, or their equivalents are acceptable. Students can obtain these skills by taking short courses and through other means.

Faculty will consider exceptions to the minimum grade point requirement based on a student's academic record, career plans, work and volunteer experience, and letters of reference. In reviewing requests for exceptions, faculty give consideration to achieving a diverse student body, racially and culturally, and a balance of preservice and inservice students.

## Program Requirements

The Master of Public Administration degree consists of 39 graduate credit hours, taken over at least three semesters of study.

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Core Curriculum</b>		
PADM 701	Public & Nonprofit Governance	3
PADM 702	Research Methods	3
PADM 710	Public Sector Organizational Theory and Behavior	3
PADM 725	Public Management of Human Resources	3
PADM 765	Public Sector Economics	3
PADM 802	Quantitative Methods for Public Sector Professionals	3
PADM 865	Public and Nonprofit Financial Management	3
PADM 895	Public Decision Making	3
<b>Electives</b>		
In addition to the core, students develop a plan of study for 15 credit hours of electives which must be approved by an advisor		15
Total Credit Hours		39

## Internships

Internships are an important part of the MPA program. Preservice students are encouraged to take an internship which must last at least nine months. Internship (PADM 890) carries 3 hours of credit and includes attendance at periodic seminars. Intern positions are remunerative and are awarded on a competitive basis. Although placement cannot be guaranteed, the public administration program has an excellent placement record.