Penn State's Master of Public Policy Program

publicpolicy.psu.edu
Penn State’s MPP Degree

From climate change to health care, there are some big questions to answer and some significant challenges to address. The Master of Public Policy program in the School of Public Policy tackles them by creating professionals with the skills to identify, analyze, and solve major policy issues.

PENN STATE’S SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY MPP PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO TRANSFORM TODAY’S LEARNERS INTO TOMORROW’S LEADERS

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR THE MPP?

The MPP degree provides professional training for those seeking careers in the design, implementation, evaluation, and advocacy of public policies. The program is open to students from any major with a variety of policy interests. Graduates pursue careers at think tanks, nonprofits, as analysts, consultants, and elected officials in local, state, and federal government.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Penn State’s MPP degree provides students with substantive knowledge of the policy process and training in quantitative policy analysis and evaluation through the core curriculum, applied capstone experience, internships, and career placement. Students select an existing policy specialization or work with faculty to design a specialization to meet their career goals.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- B.A. degree or equivalent
- Generally a 3.0 minimum GPA
- Two letters of recommendation
- 1500-word personal statement
- GRE not required
PROGRAM GOALS

DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL SKILLS
- Communication
- Project management
- Policy analysis
- Data analytics
- Program evaluation
- Teamwork
- Problem solving
- Project and research design

GAIN EXPERTISE IN A POLICY SPECIALIZATION
- Data Science/Analytics
- Labor and Employment Relations
- Criminal Justice
- Social Policy
- Health Policy
- Information Technology
- Environmental Policy
- International Public Policy

Choose an existing specialization or work with Penn State faculty to design a specialization to meet your career goals!

INCREASE CAREER OPTIONS AND EARNING POTENTIAL
- Federal, state, and local government
- Nonprofit organizations
- Private sector companies
- Think tanks
- Lobbying firms
- Consulting firms

According to the US Census Bureau, Master’s in Public Policy (MPP) graduates earn an average of $19,000 more than their counterparts with bachelor’s degrees.

UNIQUE RESOURCES DESIGNED TO SUPPORT JOB PLACEMENT AND WORKPLACE PERFORMANCE
- Programs that build professional skills in the workplace
- Events that network with leaders in public policy
- Opportunities to engage with faculty and other experts conducting research impacting current policy
- Guidance and coaching to help students grow as leaders