ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID

Apply online at: graduateschool-apply.uwm.edu

Admissions: Eligible applicants will hold a bachelor’s degree with a minimum 3.00 GPA earned. No particular undergraduate major is required, although an academic background and/or work experience related to public administration is beneficial. Applicants must also submit either GRE test scores or GMAT test scores, and three letters of recommendation. English proficiency is also required; international students must submit TOEFL scores.

Financial Aid: Limited scholarship funding may be available for full-time students. Student loans are available to students taking six credits or more per semester.

SUCCESS STORIES

Just a sampling of where our graduates work!
• City of Milwaukee
• City of Chicago
• WI Dept. of Transportation
• WI Dept. of Workforce Development
• Milwaukee County
• Racine County
• Waukesha County
• Village of Greendale
• U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
• U.S. Social Security Administration
• U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs
• WI Dept. of Corrections
• City of Appleton
• U.S. Office of Personnel Management
• Denver Police Department
• City of Seattle
• Village of Brown Deer
• Wisconsin State Assembly

CONTACT INFO

Director, Douglas Ihrke
414-229-4732
dihrke@uwm.edu
Web: uwm.edu/public-nonprofit-administration
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Advance your career in government and municipal leadership with a Master of Public Administration.

UWM's MPA program is a professional degree designed to prepare students to advance their career in public service and public administration. The program is jointly offered by the College of Letters & Science and the Sheldon B. Lubar School of Business, offering students the best blend of theory and practice from the liberal arts and business.

We offer three areas of concentration:
- Municipal management
- Public administration
- Non-profit management

Today’s public officials must make complex choices and implement programs and policies within difficult financial, legal, political, and organizational constraints, and they must be able to communicate with all types of constituents. Our program covers fiscal control, quantitative analysis, organization management, decision analysis, and the structures and legalities of government.

Our MPA graduates will be uniquely prepared to understand the responsibility and accept the challenge of management in the public sector.

BENEFITS

You are needed!
Research by Governing.com and the Center for State and Local Government Excellence shows an increasing trend in retirements in the public sector. There is growing demand for a new generation of public servants. In Wisconsin alone, there are 72 counties, more than 600 cities and villages, and countless local, state and federal agencies.

Gain experience through internships.
Our students intern at a wide variety of sites throughout the Metro Milwaukee area.

Advance your career.
An MPA gives you the tools and credentials to move up now and plan a path for future career possibilities.

Earn a good living.
Jobs in local, state and federal government are known for being stable and providing a good income and good benefits.

Serve the public.
The decisions and projects you manage will have a direct impact on your community. The opportunity to impact citizens’ lives is both personally and professionally fulfilling.

Connect with and learn from industry leaders.
Our faculty come from both academia and the public arena. They bring their vast and diverse experience into the classroom for your benefit. Your classmates will also be your future colleagues – start building your network while in school.

CURRICULUM

What you will learn
- Management
- Budget and policy analysis
- Communication skills and tactics
- Ethics
- Economics
- Strategic planning
- Organizational structure and development
- Negotiation
- Dispute resolution
- Risk analysis
- Human resources regulations and theory

The Master of Public Administration can be completed with 39 credits. Students with no significant public or nonprofit sector work experience will be required to successfully complete an additional 3-credit internship course.

All classes are in the evening or online to accommodate working professionals.

Two dual degrees are also available. The MPA can be combined into a joint Master of Science in Criminal Justice or a joint Master of Urban Planning. Contact us for more information on the MPA/MS or the MPA/MUP.