

# Public Policy, M.P.P.

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COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Learn more about the Master of Public Policy.

## About the Program

The Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) degree provides training for individuals who seek careers in the public sector or in private and non-profit organizations that work on a continuous basis with government agencies. The M.P.P. curriculum is designed to provide students with the technical and analytical skills to be able to develop and assess proposed public policies and evaluate the effectiveness of programs and activities that governments at the federal, state, and local levels undertake. The M.P.P. also develops students' appreciation for the political and institutional contexts in which issues reach the policy agenda and policies are formulated, adopted, implemented, and evaluated.

**Time Limit for Degree Completion:** 3 years; part-time students may apply for extensions, if needed

**Campus Location:** Center City for in-person instruction or Online with a combination of asynchronous and synchronous evening components

**Full-Time/Part-Time Status:** Students complete the degree program through classes offered after 5:00 p.m. The degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis.

**Interdisciplinary Study:** Courses are taken in Political Science, Economics, Geography and Urban Studies, and other disciplines as needed. Students may also pursue the M.P.P. as a dual degree with the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.). Applicants for the dual degree must apply to each program separately and should consult the M.P.P. website for further details.

**Areas of Specialization:** Students use their electives to specialize in a specific policy area or skill set.

**Job Prospects:** Students in the M.P.P. program plan to seek entry-level jobs in government agencies as civil servants or in private and non-profit organizations that work with federal, state, and local governments, or may already have experience in government, private, or non-profit organizations and seek training and credentials to further develop their careers.

**Non-Matriculated Student Policy:** Prior to applying for admission, students sometimes want to take courses as non-degree students. Students are permitted to take up to 9 credits on a non-matriculated basis. If admitted to the program, students may have that coursework, with a grade of "B" or better, apply toward the M.P.P. degree. Individuals who wish to take courses as non-matriculated students must first obtain the approval of the Director of the M.P.P. program to determine if the individual stands a reasonable chance for admission to the program. Next, the prospective student must visit the Office of Continuing Studies with transcripts from all institutions attended, including the one that conferred the undergraduate degree, to be enrolled in the coursework.

**Financing Opportunities:** M.P.P. students are not eligible for departmental assistantships, but may apply for a limited number of partial scholarships available from the program.

## Admission Requirements and Deadlines

### Application Deadline:

*Fall:*

- March 1 – Application and Scholarship Deadline
- April 15 – Late Application Deadline
- June 15 – Final Application Deadline

*Spring:*

- November 1 – Application Deadline
- December 6 – Late Application Deadline

Applications are processed as they are received. Late applications may be considered for admission.

*APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.* Curricula, admissions requirements, and deadlines are the same for the Master of Public Policy program, whether delivered in person or online. In the application portal, applicants interested in the in-person M.P.P. program should select "Master of Public Policy" from the drop-down menu, while those applying for the online M.P.P. should select "Online MPP" from that menu.

### Letters of Reference:

*Number Required:* 3

*From Whom:* Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members familiar with academic competence. For applicants with extensive administrative experience, two of the letters may come from supervisors or colleagues in the agency or organization where the applicant has been employed. Letters must be on official letterhead or include the recommender's full contact information: mailing address, phone, and email.

**Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline:** A baccalaureate degree is required. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in undergraduate work is expected for consideration of the application to the program.

**Statement of Goals:** Approximately 500 to 1,000 words include your interest in Temple's program, your future career goals, and your academic and work experience.

**Standardized Test Scores:**

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master's degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

- TOEFL iBT: 100
- IELTS Academic: 7.0
- PTE Academic: 68

**Resume:** Current resume required.

**Transfer Credit:** Graduate coursework in public policy or public administration may be transferred from outside the University, provided that the credits were obtained no more than five years prior to the student's matriculation at Temple; the grades are "B" or better; and the course(s) for transfer are equivalent to those in Temple's curriculum. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 6.

## Program Requirements

**General Program Requirements:**

*Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate:* 36

*Required Courses:*

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Core Courses</b> <sup>1</sup>		
ECON 5102	Economic Decisions and Public Policy	3
GUS 5165	Community Based Program Evaluation	3
PLCY 8001	Statistics for Public Policy	3
PLCY 8118	The Policy-Making Process	3
PLCY 8119	Policy Analysis	3
PLCY 8123	Bureaucracy and Public Management	3
PLCY 8127	Public Policy Project	3
PLCY 8128	State and Local Budgeting	3
<b>Electives</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Internship</b>		
PLCY 5085	Internship in Public Policy	3
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> Students who matriculate into the in-person M.P.P. program are permitted to take up to 6 credits of required core coursework online, excluding PLCY 8127. Requests to take required courses online must be approved in writing on a case-by-case basis.

**Culminating Events:**

*Seminar Paper:*

The Public Policy Project, completed in PLCY 8127, is undertaken in the student's last term in the M.P.P. program. Students produce an original, full-length policy analysis for a client. Students attend a weekly seminar to report on their progress at each stage in the development of their policy analysis, receive feedback from other seminar participants, and provide advice to other students in the seminar.

## Contacts

**Program Web Address:**

<https://www.temple.edu/academics/degree-programs/public-policy-mpp-la-ppol-mpp>

## **Department Information:**

Public Policy Program  
837 Mazur Hall  
1114 W. Polett Walk  
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6089  
mpp@temple.edu  
215-204-7817

## **Submission Address for Application Materials:**

<https://apply.temple.edu/CLA/>

## **Department Contacts:**

### *Admissions:*

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