

A graduate degree in public policy from UMBC will expand your career opportunities and develop your leadership skills.

Accelerated Pathways: Bachelor's/Master's with Public Policy

Why Study Public Policy?

If you are an undergraduate at UMBC with an interest in public service and the public policy process, you should consider continuing your education at UMBC by earning a Master of Public Policy (MPP) through the Accelerated Pathways Program.

MPP students study the critical problems of our society and learn how to identify and implement solutions. The coursework provides students with the tools to develop and analyze public policies and influence the public policy process.

MPP students take a set of core courses and specialized courses in one of six concentrations: **education policy, environmental policy, evaluation and analytical methods, health policy, public management, or urban policy.**

The Accelerated Program

The MPP degree requires 37 course credits, an internship, and the writing of a policy analysis paper. Once accepted into the Accelerated Pathways Program, you may take graduate level courses as an undergraduate. Up to 12 hours of graduate courses can be counted toward both your undergraduate degree and the MPP.

In the Accelerated Pathways Program, you coordinate with your undergraduate advisor in your major and an advisor from the School of Public Policy to develop a curriculum to complete both degrees. Here are some examples of the core courses you could take as a senior in the accelerated program:

PUBL 600 Research Methodology
PUBL 601 Political and Social Context of the Policy Process
PUBL 603 Theory and Practice of Policy Analysis
PUBL 604 Statistical Analysis
PUBL 613 Managing Public Organizations
PUBL 623 Governmental Budgeting

By taking advantage of this option, you can lower the cost of graduate school, and reduce the time to earn your MPP degree by as much as a year!

How to Apply

You must have a strong academic record to gain admission to this program.

Plan to apply for admission by the second semester of your junior year.

You will need:

- Unofficial transcript
- Statement of goals
- Letters of recommendation from professors
- Your resume, and
- *Application for the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's Program.*

Submit these documents to the School of Public Policy.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is usually waived for Accelerated Pathways students.

For more information, contact:

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