

THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AT UMBC

Accelerated Pathways in 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 6 areas: education policy, environmental policy, evaluation and analytical methods, health policy, public management, or urban policy.

The Accelerated Pathways Degree

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 up to four graduate level courses as an undergraduate which may be counted towards your undergraduate and your graduate degrees.

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 the two degrees. Here are examples of the core courses you would take as a junior or senior in the Accelerated Pathways 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

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 sophomore year.

You will need:

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

Submit these documents to the the **Graduate Program Coordinator** at 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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