M.A.

M.P.A.

master of public administration

PUBLIC MANAGEMENT & POLICY

Georgia State University

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
Public and nonprofit sector jobs provide the opportunity to have a positive impact on the world.

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree offers a foot in the door for pre-service students or a leg up for in-service students seeking analytical and management careers in the public and nonprofit sectors. The MPA prepares you to manage programs tackling the tough problems of the 21st century.

The MPA curriculum develops your leadership, management, communications, analytical, and quantitative skills and deepens your knowledge of how government agencies and nonprofit organizations function.

An MPA is a good investment: public and nonprofit sector employees with master’s degrees earn 19 percent more annually in Georgia than similar employees with bachelor’s degrees.

U.S. News and World Report ranks Georgia State’s MPA program as one of the top 25 in the nation, as well as 4th in public finance and budgeting and 12th in nonprofit management and in city management and urban policy.

Our MPA degree is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, and is offered by the Department of Public Management and Policy (PMAP), part of the highly-ranked Andrew Young School of Policy Studies.

You will study with nationally and internationally known faculty. The PMAP Department faculty was the 5th most prolific in public administration journals over the past decade.

We take advantage of our central location in Atlanta. Georgia State’s downtown campus is within walking distance of the State Capitol, City Hall and headquarters for many state, federal and other agencies, and nonprofits and businesses that employ our graduates. Internships in metropolitan Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and around the world hone skills, provide networking opportunities, and often open doors to attractive jobs.

The top 3 reasons for attending the Andrew Young School:

#1 Talented faculty use state-of-the-art technology to help you learn the skills you need

#2 Flexible scheduling to complete your degree in a timely manner – evening classes in downtown Atlanta fit conveniently with your career

#3 Great internship and job opportunities – our career services office supports you throughout your program and during the job search
Study Public Management
We offer several policy concentrations to help you focus your career: Management and Finance, Nonprofit Management, Planning and Economic Development, Policy Analysis and Evaluation, Criminal Justice, and Public Health. You may also develop an individualized concentration. A joint MPA/JD degree is offered with the Georgia State College of Law.

Finance Your Education
MPA students are eligible to receive graduate research assistantships, which provide a full tuition waiver plus a stipend. Graduate assistants work with faculty or policy research centers on projects in their area of interest.

Find a Great Career
To help graduates find good jobs, the AYS Office of Career Services and Student Life provides workshops in resume writing, networking, and professional presentation, as well as employer panels and career fairs. Our award-winning student organizations, the PMAP Community Network and Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, provide additional opportunities.

Many of our MPA graduates hold top positions in their fields. Recent placements include: director, Georgia Office of Planning and Budget; director, Georgia Senate Budget Office; CFO, Georgia Building Authority; tax commissioner, Gwinnett County; director of administration, DeKalb County Board of Health; executive director, Georgia Municipal Association; executive director, Senior Citizens Services of Metro Atlanta; and policy advisor to the Governor of Georgia.

Experience Research
The Andrew Young School has won national acclaim for insightful policy research. Areas of focus include financial research for state, federal and local governments; health policy; performance assessment; and issues affecting the nonprofit sector. Governments and the private sector now turn regularly to our research centers for advice and counsel.

“Why is this the degree for me?”

"The faculty was supportive and knowledgeable. I had opportunities to learn from high ranking professionals working in Atlanta, who shared current practices and lessons from the field. When combined with AYS’s excellent career services and student groups, the MPA program provided strong preparation for a career in the nonprofit sector.”

Kimberly Lorch,
MPA Graduate in Nonprofit Studies
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