Master of Public Administration and Juris Doctor

M.P.A./J.D. Combined Program

The joint degree program is designed for the student who intends to combine career preparation in law and public administration. Examples of career objectives for this degree are the practice of law in communities (for example, a city attorney, who may be called upon to perform legal services for a municipality) and for city managers (who may need to deal with legal questions and interact with legal professionals). The program combines into 4 years the normal 3-year Juris Doctor (http://catalog.ku.edu/law/jd/) program offered by the School of Law (http://www.law.ku.edu/) and the 2-year M.P.A. program offered by the School of Public Affairs and Administration (http://kupa.ku.edu/).

Admission to Graduate Studies

An applicant seeking to pursue graduate study in the College may be admitted as either a degree-seeking or non-degree seeking student. Policies and procedures of Graduate Studies govern the process of Graduate admission. These may be found in the Graduate Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies/) section of the online catalog.

Please consult the Departments & Programs (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/) section of the online catalog for information regarding program-specific admissions criteria and requirements. Special admissions requirements pertain to Interdisciplinary Studies degrees, which may be found in the Graduate Studies section of the online catalog.

MPA/JD Admission

Applicants for the MPA/JD program will apply for the MPA program. Please visit our website (https://kupa.ku.edu/admissions-information/) for complete admissions information.

The academic prerequisites for regular admission to the MPA program are:

1. Completion of a bachelor’s degree, preferably with a background in the social sciences, including basic college algebra and statistics courses.
2. A grade-point average of B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) for all previous university or college work. In certain circumstances, when the GPA is slightly below 3.0, other factors, such as strong Graduate Record Examination scores or exceptional letters of recommendation may be considered for provisional admission to the MPA program.

For all applicants, a completed application includes:

1. Online Graduate Studies application. (http://graduate.ku.edu/ku-graduate-application/)
2. A nonrefundable application fee, submitted online with the application form.
3. 1 official transcript from the degree-granting college or university and any post-graduate college or university attended.
4. 3 letters of recommendation. If possible, at least 1 should be an academic reference.

5. A 3- to 5-page essay describing your background and career goals and clearly indicating how the MPA degree fits into those goals and addressing any deficiencies in your academic preparation.
6. A current résumé.
7. A writing sample that is at least 5 pages long. It should be a well-cited work in which you critically analyze (not just summarize) an issue.
8. Graduate Record Exam (GRE): General test only (verbal, analytical and quantitative). GMAT or LSAT may substitute for the GRE. Our institution code is 6871, and the department code is 4801.
9. Non-native speakers of English must meet English proficiency requirements as described here (http://graduate.ku.edu/english-proficiency-requirements/).

Deadlines

Application deadlines are February 1, May 1 and November 1.

J.D./MPA Joint Degree Program

Students must complete 115 total credit hours: 78 credit hours in the School of Law (42 required and 36 elective) and 37 credit hours in the School of Public Affairs and Administration (19 required and 18 elective). Students pursuing the joint degree should plan to enroll in course work for 2, and in some instances 3, summers.

The MPA degree is awarded upon successful completion of credits required and the final written examination. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences requires a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. Only courses completed with a grade of C or higher will count toward the MPA degree. Please see the current Law School Catalog (https://catalog.ku.edu/law/jd#requirementsstext) and School of Law Joint Degree page (http://law.ku.edu/publicadministration/) for details and degree requirements.

MPA Degree Requirements

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree is awarded after successful completion of 43 credit hours of course work. This includes 19 hours (6 courses) of required core courses (including the student's choice of an experiential learning course to serve as a final reflective course) that all students complete, 18 hours (6 courses) tailored to the student’s interests and/or track (fellow or MPA track), and 6 hours (2 courses) from the School of Law. Once a student begins the program, all degree requirements must be completed within 7 years.

MPA track students will complete the required core courses and select a graduate certificate within the School of Public Affairs & Administration to complete 6 electives (18 hours) to complete the program. Graduate certificates only require 12 credits, so there is additional flexibility in elective content for MPA track students.

Core Course Work

The MPA core course work includes the following courses (19 credit hours):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 824</td>
<td>Creating Good Public Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 835</td>
<td>Managing Public Money</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 836</td>
<td>Data Driven Decision-Making</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 841</td>
<td>Context, Ethics and Legal Environment of Public Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 845</td>
<td>Managing Public Organizations</td>
<td>3</td>
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**PUAD 898** Leadership, Professionalism, and Citizen Engagement

or **PUAD 895** Professional Development Seminar II: Leadership, Professionalism, and Citizen Engagement

**Track Course Work**

Students may either apply for the MPA track or the City/County Management Fellows track to complete course work toward the MPA degree.

MPA track students will select a graduate certificate within the School of Public Affairs & Administration and additional elective coursework totaling 18 credit hours to complete the program. Graduate certificates only require 12 credits, so there is additional flexibility in elective content for MPA track students. Please see here for a list of SPAA Graduate Certificates (https://kupa.ku.edu/graduate-certificates/).

City/County Management Fellows will take the following courses to complete City/County Management graduate certificate (https://kupa.ku.edu/graduate-certificates/) within their joint degree program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 825</td>
<td>Urban Policy and Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 834</td>
<td>Human Resource Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 837</td>
<td>Advanced Public Budgeting and Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 851</td>
<td>Infrastructure Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 892</td>
<td>Public Administration Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAD 894</td>
<td>Professional Development Seminar I: Public Admin</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Contemporary Issues &amp; Competency Assessment</td>
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**Final Exam**

All students must pass a written master's examination (final paper) to complete the requirements for the MPA degree.