

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION - GENERALIST (MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION)

The mission of Jacksonville State University's MPA Program is to provide a diverse student population with the knowledge and core competencies to become effective public administrators. Through the use of a standardized public administration curriculum and interdisciplinary cooperation, our program is able to prepare students for leadership roles in a variety of public and non-profit organizations. Utilizing traditional classroom and on-line formats, our program is able to provide quality graduate education that promotes the values and ideals of public service to all students.

Application Deadlines

Applications are accepted year-round.

Application Materials Required for the MPA with a Generalist Concentration

Applicants for the MPA must submit all of the following documentation to Graduate Admissions to be considered for admission:

Graduate Admissions
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265-1602

1. Completed JSU Graduate Application for Admission (<https://gr-recruiter.jsu.edu/Apply/Account/Login/>).
2. Non-refundable \$35.00 application processing fee.
3. Official transcript(s) from the baccalaureate degree awarding institution and **all** transcripts from institutions where post-baccalaureate work has been completed. To be considered for admission, applicants must hold a degree from an institutionally accredited institution or its foreign equivalent. (Students who have previously attended JSU do not need to request a transcript from the University.)
4. A statement of purpose/interest that shows why the MPA degree is important to the applicant, what the applicant will bring to the program, and how the degree will benefit the applicant's career aspirations.
5. A professional resume, including academic history, employment, and voluntary/community work. Applicants with at least one year of full-time (or two years of part-time) administrative experience working for a federal, state, or local government, or a nonprofit organization, must include this experience on their resumes. Applicants should also provide a letter of reference from the federal, state, or local government agency or nonprofit organization. This letter must be on agency letterhead stating the job title, dates of employment, and nature of administrative experience and responsibilities.
6. International student applicants must see the International Student Applicants (<https://catalog.jsu.edu/graduate/admission/international-student-applicants/>) section of this catalog for other application and enrollment requirements.

Admission Requirements for the MPA with a Generalist Concentration

A particular undergraduate major is not specified for admission to this program.

Unconditional Admission

Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or higher from a regionally accredited institution may be unconditionally admitted.

Conditional Admission

- Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of 2.50 to 2.99 from a regionally accredited institution may be conditionally admitted.
- Any applicant failing to meet the requirement for unconditional admission may be conditionally admitted with the recommendation of the graduate faculty in the applicant's major.

Applicants who are granted conditional admission must achieve a GPA of at least 3.00 on the first 12 graduate hours attempted. Failure to meet these conditions will result in the student being dropped from graduate studies.

Minimum Requirements for the MPA with a Generalist Concentration

An overall 3.00 GPA is required on all coursework attempted for the master's degree. Transfer credit cannot be used to raise the GPA to the required 3.00.

Course	Title	Credits
Required Public Administration Courses		
PA 5100	Foundations of Public Administration	3
PA 5501	Public Policy Process and Analysis	3
PA 5702	Research Methods in Public Administration	3
PA 5504	Leadership and Ethics in the Public Sector	3
PA 5531	HR Management in the Public Sector	3
PA 5532	Budgeting and Finance in the Public Sector	3
PA 5540	Public Organizational Theory	3
PA 5980	Capstone Project in Public Administration	3
Generalist Concentration		
Select twelve semester hours of 5000-level coursework from the following with approval from the MPA Program Director. ¹		12
BA 5501	Organizational Communication	
BA 5530	Business Analytics	
CJ 5700	Seminar in Contemporary Criminal Justice Issues	
CJ 5707	Seminar in Legal Issues	
CJ 5809	Criminal Justice Planning, Evaluation, and Grant-Writing	
EM 5105	Foundations of Emergency Management	
EM 5525	Disaster Recovery	
EM 5540	Hazard Mitigation	
EM 5545	Emergency Preparedness	
EM 5555	Disaster Response	
GIS 5510	Introduction to Spatial Analysis	
GIS 5520	Spatial Data Collection and Management	
GIS 5530	Spatial Data, Layout, and Design	
GIS 5570	Advanced Topics in Spatial Analysis	

MGT 5424	Strategies in Entrepreneurship
MGT 5504	Business Organization and Administration
MGT 5530	Contemporary Issues in Management
PA 5546	Diversity in the Workplace
PA 5612	Intergovernmental Relations
PA 5621	Administrative Law
PA 5682	Grantwriting
PSC 5050	The American Executive
PSC 5055	Introduction to Political Psychology
Total Hours	36

¹ Other 5000-level courses in the areas of BA, CJ, EM, GIS, MGT, and PSC may be approved by the MPA Program Director.

36 Graduate Semester Hours are Required for this Degree

Graduation and Capstone Project

A Capstone Project is required for this degree; the Capstone Project is a 3-hour credit course taken during the last semester of coursework. Please see the graduate advisor for full details. All students must apply for graduation (<http://www.jsu.edu/graduate/graduation.html>) by the given deadline of the semester (<http://www.jsu.edu/registrar/academic-calendar/>) in which they plan to graduate. Please see the Graduation and Comprehensive Exam (<https://catalog.jsu.edu/graduate/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-comprehensive-exam/>) section of this catalog for more information.