

# PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION - GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (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 Concentration in Geographic Information Science and Technology

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 Concentration in Geographic Information Science and Technology

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

### Unconditional Admission

To be considered for unconditional admission, applicants must meet one of the following:

- A cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or higher on a 4.00 scale or
- A cumulative graduate GPA of 3.00 or higher on a 4.00 scale for applicants holding a graduate degree from an accredited institution

### Conditional Admission

- Applicants who do not meet the criteria for unconditional admission and have a cumulative undergraduate GPA between 2.75 and 2.99 may be considered for conditional admission based on the merit of the required application materials submitted.

**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 Concentration in Geographic Information Science and Technology

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
<b>Required Public Administration Courses</b>		
PA 500	Foundations of Public Administration	3
PA 501	Public Policy Process and Analysis	3
PA 502	Research Methods and Program Evaluation	3
PA 504	Leadership and Ethics in the Public Sector	3
PA 531	HR Management in the Public Sector	3
PA 532	Budgeting and Finance in the Public Sector	3
PA 540	Public Organizational Theory	3
PA 546	Diversity in the Workplace	3
PA 599	Capstone Project in Public Administration	3
<b>Geographic Information Science and Technology Concentration</b>		
GIS 510	Introduction to Spatial Analysis	3
GIS 520	Spatial Data Collection and Management	3
GIS 560	Spatial Data, Layout, and Design	3
GIS 570	Advanced Topics in Spatial Analysis (Or another 500-level GIS course upon approval)	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>39</b>

**39 Graduate Semester Hours are Required for this Degree**

## **Graduation and Comprehensive Exam**

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.