

# Master of Public Administration

## INTRODUCTION

The Master of Public Administration program at Cleveland State University prepares graduates for administrative positions in government, nonprofit, and public-service organizations. The program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA). The Levin College of Urban Affairs, which houses the MPA program, is ranked second in the nation by *U.S. News* and *World Report* for its graduate specialty in city management/urban policy

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The MPA program's mission is to advance intellectual and administrative leadership in public administration by preparing students to assume the challenges of public service. Course work gives a diverse student body a foundation in general public administration and specialized skills grounded in one of the program's areas of expertise. It helps students to discover, construct, interpret, and disseminate knowledge and understanding about the practice of public affairs. The MPA program has built this mission on a commitment to nationally recognized excellence in public administration education and research, to the development of leadership in government, to public service for solutions to urban problems, and to an enhanced understanding of public policy and management in a global and diverse society. The program is designed both for in-service students and recent college

graduates seeking careers in government and public-service organizations. Most courses are offered once a week in the evening, a few are on the weekends or online, allowing students to take classes after work hours. In addition to offering courses on the CSU main campus, East and West Centers, and the MetroHealth Medical Center, the Levin College of Urban Affairs and Youngstown State University have partnered to offer the MPA degree on the YSU campus.

## RESEARCH and CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Through its activities, the Master of Public Administration program supports the educational, research, and public-service missions of the Levin College of Urban Affairs and Cleveland State University. By gaining a broad understanding of the theory and practice of public administration, our students qualify for a variety of leadership positions in the local, state, and federal service, as well as in international agencies and nonprofit organizations. Dr. Vera Vogelsang-Coombs, MPA Program Director, has been serving as a member of Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's Operations Efficiency Task Council since 2006. Dr. Jeffrey Brudney holds the Levin Chair of Urban Studies and Public Service and is among the top ten most published public administration scholars. Professor Sylvester Murray has served as president of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the American Society for Public Administration.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The MPA program curriculum consists of 42-45 credit hours of study, divided into core courses, a specialization, electives, and a Public Administration Capstone. All students complete an area of specialization. The three areas of specialization and related options are: Public Management (General Public Management, Nonprofit Management, or City Management) Economic Development, and Health Care Administration (Public Health Care Management or Long-Term Care Administration). In the MPA Capstone Seminar, students write and defend a capstone paper that addresses a significant public administration issue and synthesizes their MPA learning.



**For admission information contact:**  
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Graduate Admissions Office  
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(216) 687-5599  
[www.csuohio.edu/gradcollege/](http://www.csuohio.edu/gradcollege/)

**For program information contact:**  
Urban Student Services  
Maxine Goodman Levin College of  
Urban Affairs, UR 205  
<http://urban.csuohio.edu/academics/mpa.shtml>