Master of Public Administration (MPA)

The online Master of Public Administration program at Kent State University provides the knowledge and skills to advance your career in the public sector. Using techniques that help you apply what you learn in real time, this program is designed to position you for senior management roles in local, state and regional governments, as well as in nonprofit organizations.

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Kent State's online MPA is one of only a select number of programs fully accredited by NASPAA, and designed for working professionals.

The program is 36 credits in length, consisting of 12 three-credit courses.

- Each course is seven weeks in length, with two courses taken sequentially each semester. This allows you to focus on one course at a time while still completing the program in two years.
- To keep class sizes small and maximize collaboration, multiple sections of each course are offered.
- The program consists of eight required core courses (24 credits), three elective courses (9 credits) and a final capstone project (3 credits).
- Those without substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization (“pre-service” students) must complete at least 3 credit hours of an internship, in addition to the 36 credit hours of coursework. However, the MPA program coordinator may waive this internship requirement for students with substantive full-time administrative experience in public service (“in-service” students).
- Once you are admitted to the program, your student counselor will craft your personalized degree plan, giving you a clear course sequence and path to graduation.

WHY CHOOSE KENT STATE’S ONLINE MPA?

- Enroll in a nationally ranked program from the only Ohio university that offers a 100% online NASPAA-accredited MPA
- Join a nationwide alumni network that reports a 92% satisfaction rate with the program
- Learn from a curriculum designed to incorporate experiential learning throughout the program
- Experience a flexible online program structure created to fit the lives of full-time working professionals
- Benefit from an affordable tuition that is below many other NASPAA-accredited programs
- Graduate in two years
- GRE waiver available for qualified applicants.
WHAT YOU’LL LEARN
The online MPA from Kent State builds critical, graduate-level knowledge and skills in areas including:

- **Public budgeting** and financial management
- **Strategic planning**
- **Information technology in a public service** setting
- **Nonprofit organization law** and financial characteristics
- **Ethics in public service**

The program integrates experiential learning activities, including conducting interviews, attending fundraisers and producing an actionable strategic plan as a final project.

FACULTY
Kent State University's Public Administration faculty are devoted advocates for their students and the field of public service. They collectively bring an extensive history of academic research combined with significant in-field work experience, allowing the MPA program to balance academic rigor with a practitioner focus.

The faculty define themselves by the following core values:
- Public service requires personal honesty and transparency
- The public interest always comes first
- Citizen participation in decision-making
- Technical competence in analysis and implementation
- Expanding access to public service education and research