ETHICAL LEADERSHIP MATTERS NOW MORE THAN EVER
LEAD THE CAUSE
ONLINE MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
ACT ON YOUR CALLING TO SERVE THE PUBLIC

You want to change your community and solve problems from the ground up—and you have the drive to make it happen. But making a real impact takes more than just heart and ambition. You need the practical skills, foundational knowledge and credibility that a Master of Public Administration (MPA) provides.

The core professional degree for a management career in public service, an MPA can give you the boost you need to become an influential leader at your current organization—or to launch into your dream job in public service.

MPA CAREER OUTLOOK
Explore the career potential with an MPA.
Learn more...
What we do in public administration, we’re servants. My boss is really all of the residents of the state of Ohio, and I’ve got to do everything I can to make sure I provide the best possible service, outreach and product, even for those customers that don’t know they need me to do it.

— MARK CLENDENIN, MPA ’16

Watch online MPA student Mark Clendenin discuss public service. Watch Now

An online MPA from Kent State University can help you...

- Gain momentum in your public service career
- Become a trusted authority in your workplace
- Uncover exciting new ways to implement policy
- Expand your professional network
- Stand out to hiring managers
A DEGREE BUILT FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS

At Kent State, we believe that you shouldn’t have to sacrifice your career to earn a quality degree like our NASPAA-accredited online MPA.

In fact, as of September 2018, 100 percent of our current students report that they’ve remained employed while enrolled in the program.

Our dynamic and flexible online experience lets you complete coursework when it’s convenient for you. You’ll take just one course at a time, each seven weeks in length, so you can focus your efforts and still graduate in as few as two years.

YOU’RE NOT ALONE IF YOU’VE EVER THOUGHT...

“How will I be able to juggle school, my career, family obligations and everything else?”
DON’T LIMIT YOURSELF

While many MPA graduates go on to work for public agencies, this degree can unlock fulfilling career opportunities across multiple sectors.

PUBLIC SECTOR
- Federal agencies
- State agencies
- County and city agencies

NONPROFIT SECTOR
- Education
- Healthcare
- Government support organizations

PRIVATE SECTOR
- Consulting firms
- Research firms
- Human resources
- Compliance

An MPA can also prepare you for work in the “fourth sector,” a new hybrid market encompassing the emerging crossover between private-sector, governmental and nonprofit organizations.¹

¹ Retrieved on October 3, 2018, from fourthsector.net/the-emerging-fourth-sector
WHAT WILL YOU MASTER?

With multiple degree options available for aspiring leaders, it can be tricky to choose the right path. That’s why we’ve provided a breakdown of key attributes of MPA and MBA programs to help you assess which professional degree is best for your career goals.

MPA
- Public organization management
- Public finance and budgeting

MBA
- Accounting
- Finance
- Human resources
- Strategic thinking
- Business strategy

CURRICULUM FOCUS

PRIMARY SKILLS
- Project and program management
- Policy implementation
- Public financial management

If you have a head for business and a heart for community service, an MPA may be the right choice for you. Learn more...

1. Retrieved on October 3, 2018, from naspaa.org/students/faq/faq.asp
2. Retrieved on October 3, 2018, from ecollegefinder.org/2014/08/14/difference-mba-mpa/
Our program is directed toward midcareer, nontraditional students—people who are already working full time in a public or a nonprofit organization.

— ANTHONY MOLINA, PH.D.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

A HIGH STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE, MADE ACCESSIBLE

Kent State’s online MPA program is one of fewer than 30 online programs—and the only one in Ohio—accredited by the prestigious Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA), which represents the global standard in public service education.

And we believe in keeping this high-quality program affordable, too. Our current tuition comes in at under $26,000 for the entire program—and even lower for Ohio residents.
WE ARE NOW OFFERING
a Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Nonprofit Management!

Contact an Admissions Advisor at onlinedegrees@kent.edu
or +1 844-234-4073 for more information.

ARE YOU A CURRENT KENT STATE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT?
Check out page 26 for information about an accelerated path to your MPA.
Begin your graduate-level coursework before you finish your bachelor’s degree!

READY TO APPLY?
Start an Application
WHERE THEORY MEETS APPLICATION

At Kent State, we take a twofold approach to your online MPA education, incorporating experiential activities alongside theory-based lectures to help you connect the dots between key concepts and their application. Depending on the course and your personal preferences, you might conduct interviews, attend fundraisers or sit in on board meetings at local nonprofits.
Each of the classes has some sort of an applied component to it.

— MARK CASSELL, PH.D.
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

In your final semester, you’ll take the capstone seminar, which is the pinnacle of our experiential coursework. You’ll demonstrate your ability to synthesize all the knowledge you’ve gained throughout the program to make administrative decisions that reflect a public service orientation.

In completing the capstone seminar, you’ll produce:

• A problem statement
• A literature review and guiding framework
• Recommendations for addressing the problem at hand
• An implementation plan that considers steps, a timeline, personnel and budgetary issues, and legal and ethical concerns
• A methodology for assessing the effectiveness of your proposal

Check out Professor Cassell’s interview on the future of public administration.

Watch Now
At the end of the day, you’re not just trying to get a degree. You’re trying to develop a set of skills that’s going to launch you into a career.

— Mark Cassell, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Science

DEVELOP CRITICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

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

Your final electronic presentation of your capstone project to your faculty and peers in the program will demonstrate your growth in these areas and as a public service leader overall.

Learn more about course offerings.

View the curriculum.
OUR FACULTY
Inspiring Teachers, Devoted Advocates

The driving force behind our curriculum is our dedicated faculty, who bring an extensive history of academic research and significant in-field work experience to our online classrooms. They specialize in a wide variety of topics that influence public administration and policy, including e-government, immigration policy and privatization, and public policy reform. Learn ethical leadership from those who have championed it for decades.

Learn more about our faculty practitioners.
View our faculty bios.
MEET OUR STUDENTS

64% Female
36% Male
15% U.S. minority
8% Veterans and active-duty military
11% Hold advanced degrees
85% Ohio residents

CURRENT STUDENT OCCUPATIONS

30% Government agency
28% Nonprofit
23% Educational services
7% Student
7% Other
5% Consulting

Self-reported by Kent MPA students and graduates, from 2014-2018.
STAY GOLDEN
An Accelerated Option for Kent State Undergraduates

Want to double the value of your undergraduate coursework and get a head start on your master’s degree? Our special accelerated option for the online MPA program allows current Kent State juniors and seniors to save time and money by taking graduate-level courses during their undergraduate career and count up to 12 credit hours from their undergraduate degree toward their online MPA.

Learn More

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact an Admissions Advisor at onlinedegrees@kent.edu or +1 844-234-4073.
ONLINE MPA PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

- 36 credit hours total*
- 100% online coursework
- Take one course at a time, two courses total, per each 15-week semester
- Graduate in as few as 2 years
- 3 start dates: January, May, August
- Dedicated Student Success Coordinator
- 24/7 tech support

*Those without substantive full-time administrative experience in a public service organization (as assessed by the MPA program coordinator) must complete at least 3 credit hours of an internship in addition to the 36 credit hours of coursework.
TAKE THE NEXT STEP
Are you ready to kickstart your career in public administration?

Our basic requirements for admission include:

- Online application
- Three letters of recommendation
- $45 application fee
- Official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended
- GRE scores*
- Writing sample
- Goal statement
- Resume/CV

*A GRE waiver is available for qualified applicants.

ACT ON YOUR CALLING. SERVE THE PUBLIC.

Still have questions? Call +1 844-234-4073 to speak to an Admissions Advisor, or apply today!