

Why Public Policy?

Effective public policies advance the public good. Our **Master of Public Policy (MPP)** program prepares you to move into influential positions in the policymaking world. You will develop the skills in policy and economic analysis necessary to understand and solve critical problems. Our graduates advance in careers across a wide range of policy areas including national security, public finance and budgeting, regional economic development, urban policy, terrorism and transnational crime, and many more. Our alumni hold positions throughout the public and private sectors, including government agencies, NGOs, and consulting firms.

Program Director – Dr. Bonnie Stabile

A complete list of Schar School faculty and their CVs can be found at <http://schar.gmu.edu/faculty>.

Curriculum Requirements

The MPP program requires **39 credit hours (36 credit hours with approved internship waiver)**. Based on previous coursework, students may be required to take a writing course and/or U.S. policy systems course.

Required MPP Core Courses (21 credits)

- **PUBP 500** Theory and Practice in Public Policy: Theories of public policy emphasizing both the historical intellectual development of the discipline and the role that theory and ethics may be expected to play in public policy making.
- **PUBP 503** Culture, Organization, and Technology: Examines the influence of culture in societal, political, economic, and technological processes, nationally and internationally.
- **POGO 511** Introductory Data Analysis for Policy and Government: Introduces fundamental statistical analysis for analyzing policy, government, and other social science data. Focuses on problem definition, problem solving, and how to communicate results to general audience under conditions of uncertainty in public sector. Provides the core foundation for advanced graduate work in data analytics using contemporary statistical software packages.
- **PUBP 720** Managerial Economics and Policy Analysis: Focuses on the application of microeconomic theory in analyzing public policy issues.
- **PUBP 741** U.S. Financial Policy Processes and Procedures: Examines the executive financial and budget management process in the federal and state government systems as well as parallel processes in the other nonprofit sectors.
- **ITRN 503** Macroeconomic Policy in the Global Economy: Offers students an overview of macroeconomic theory and mathematical concepts with an emphasis on their application to problems of the modern global economy.
- **Methods/Analytics**: One of the following courses – POGO 611, POGO 646, PUBP 754, or approved substitution.

Professional Internship (3 credits)

Students with two or more years of professional policy-related experience may request a waiver of this requirement.

Substantive Policy Emphases (15 credits)

Students are asked to complete five courses within one of the following policy areas or receive approval to create an emphasis. These courses should be taken after the completion of 9 credit hours of core coursework:

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| • International Governance and Institutions | • Regional Economic Development | • Terrorism, Transnational Crime, and Corruption |
| • National Security and Public Policy | • Social Policy | • Public Finance and Budgeting |
| • U.S. Government Institutions and Policy Management | • Science and Technology Policy | • Urban Policy and Development |
| • Economic Policy | • Transportation Policy | • Global Medical And Health Policy |
| | • Education Policy | |

Admissions Information

For admission consideration to the MPP program, applicants must hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited university or college.

Application Deadlines	FALL TERM	SPRING TERM
Domestic Students	May 1	December 1
International Students*	May 1	November 1
For Priority Scholarship Consideration	February 1	December 1

*For admission purposes, please adhere to the International Student Deadlines if you have completed your undergraduate and/or graduate degree outside of the United States.

Application Requirements

Please visit <https://schar.gmu.edu/how-to-apply> for more information.

- Graduate Application and application fee.** The Graduate Application can be completed online at: <https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now>
- A 750-1000 word **written statement** of the applicant's goals for and interest in the program
- A current **resume**
- Unofficial transcript(s)** from all university work
Applicants presenting international credentials must provide transcripts, degree certificates or diplomas, and certified translations of the documents into English (if applicable)
- Two letters of recommendation**
At least one letter of recommendation should be from an academic resource

***Please note:** ALL applicants seeking consideration for **merit-based scholarships** from the Schar School of Policy and Government are required to submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores.

Additional criteria for International Applicants:

- TOEFL/IELTS scores** (required for international applicants)

Minimum required TOEFL scores: 88 with a 20 in each of the four subsections **OR**

Minimum required IELTS score: 6.5 total

Financial Aid

To apply for federal assistance, applicants are required to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form which can be accessed online at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. For other questions regarding federal assistance, please visit the Office of Student Financial Aid at: <http://financialaid.gmu.edu/>.

Tuition and Fees for the 2020-2021 Academic Year

In-State Total: \$870.75/credit hour

Out-of-State Total: \$1,658.75/credit hour

*2018-19 Academic Year

Public Policy (MPP) Graduates:

