

## **FACT SHEET – KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY, MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM (MPA)**

We are pleased to share the data contained in this Fact Sheet, which is in compliance with the expectations of our accrediting body for the MPA degree, NASPAA (Accreditation Standard 7: Communication).

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**DEGREE TITLE:** Masters of Public Administration

**ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROGRAM AND UNIVERSITY:** The MPA program is offered by the School of Public Administration, within the College of Public Service and Leadership Studies; housed on the campus of Kentucky State University.

**MODES OF PROGRAM DELIVERY:** We have one mode of program delivery: in-person instruction with occasional online courses offered. There is only one MPA program at KSU, with a single set of admission criteria and a single curriculum. See the MPA handbook for more details.

**NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS:** The MPA program requires completion of 42 semester credit hours of coursework, consisting of 24 hours of core courses, nine hours in a concentration area, and nine hours of elective coursework. In addition, all students must complete a two-part comprehensive examination, addressing both core and specialty coursework. In-service students with at least one year of professional experience in the public or nonprofit sectors may qualify to receive an internship waiver. However, internships are mandatory for pre-service students, who are required to complete an internship worth 6 elective credit hours.

**LENGTH OF DEGREE:** MPA students matriculate through our program at different paces depending their employment status and preferences. A full load for graduate studies is 9 credits during the Fall and Spring semesters, and 6 credits in the Summer. A student taking this traditional path could complete the program in five semesters (ex. Fall / Spring / Summer / Fall / Spring). Many of our students work full-time and prefer to take two courses per regular semester and one course in during the Summer. A student following this pattern could finish in eight semesters (ex. Fall / Spring / Summer / Fall / Spring / Summer / Fall / Spring). Students should be aware that Summer course offerings are variable depending on enrollment and staffing, and therefore it is advisable to plan that time for general electives or internships. Also, choosing to seek dual concentrations can affect time to degree: students should consult their advisor early in their studies to plan how to complete the degree in a timely fashion.

**LIST OF DUAL DEGREES:** None.

**LIST OF SPECIALIZATIONS:** MPA students develop specialized expertise in at least one concentration area: Human Resource Management (HRM), Non-profit Management (NP), International Development (ID), and Management Information Systems (MIS).

**FAST-TRACK INFO:** None.

**STUDENT BODY:** 5 students were admitted to the MPA program during Fall 2017. The total number of students in the program taking classes in Fall 2017 was 47. 57 percent were male, and 25% were female. 66% of students were African American, 15% were White, and 32 percent of students' race is unknown.

**MISSION AND COMPETENCIES:** The MPA program updated its mission and values in Spring 2017. The universal competencies have been in place since the 2017-2018 academic year.

#### MISSION STATEMENT OF THE MPA PROGRAM

School of Public Administration, College of Public Service and Leadership Studies

*The mission was revised in 2017, drawing upon student, alumni, and faculty; further input received from Chair of the College of Public Service and Leadership Studies; adopted in final form as of April 2017 by MPA program faculty.*

**The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program at Kentucky State University prepares and inspires individuals to meet the call of public service in leadership and management.** The MPA program thus implements a vital part of the University's mission in accordance with the educational philosophy of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA). The program fosters commitment to public service, and provides knowledge and skills of value to public and non-profit sector professionals confronting dynamic work environments. Students can choose from a balanced inventory of conceptual, quantitative, and professional courses to solve complex problems within human resource management, non-profit management, international development, and management information systems.

As Kentucky's only public historically black college or university (HBCU), the MPA program is dedicated to advancing and to promoting social equity. Kentucky State University is strategically located in the capital city of Frankfort, KY and embraces its close proximity to numerous types of government agencies and nonprofit organizations. With the university's location, the program has the distinct advantage of serving local, state, national, and international communities by preparing students today for real-life leadership tomorrow.

#### COMPETENCIES

MPA graduates are expected to achieve the following five overarching Program Competencies, consistent with our mission and based upon the standards of our accrediting organization, NASPAA:

1. MPA graduates will be competent to lead and manage in public and nonprofit governance.
2. MPA graduates will be competent to participate in and contribute to the policy process.
3. MPA graduates will be competent to analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems, and make decisions appropriate to public and nonprofit administration.
4. MPA graduates will be competent to articulate and apply a public service perspective.
5. MPA graduates will be competent to communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workplace and citizenry.

Approved April 4, 2019

The MPA program abides by more detailed student learning outcomes (SLOs) that are associated with each of the five program competencies listed above. To understand what specific skills, abilities, and knowledge areas included in the MPA degree at KSU, we encourage you to contact our MPA Coordinator at [monica.valentine@ksu.edu](mailto:monica.valentine@ksu.edu) to receive more information about our competency and learning outcomes by course.

**ADMISSION CRITERIA:** All individuals applying to the MPA program must supply the following information:

- An Application for Admission – we accept applications year round.
- Official undergraduate transcripts confirming a bachelor’s degree.
- Three (3) Letters of Recommendations
- Personal Essay/Statement of Goals/Career Objective – include relevant personal and professional experiences that reflect what led the applicant to pursue an MPA degree; briefly discuss research interest in an area of public administration; describe academic and future career goals; and include examples of volunteer work, positions of responsibility, and life experiences that have contributed to interest in public service.
- Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE)
- Application Fee - \$30.00 for U.S. applicants; \$100.00 for international applications (U.S. funds).

Students who were previously enrolled in the Master of Public Administration program at Kentucky State University and who wish to resume enrollment after not attending for two or more years, and students returning from suspension must provide the following:

- An application for re-admission
- Official transcripts for all coursework attempted at other colleges or universities during the period of absence from Kentucky State University
- Re-Admission Application Fee

**NUMBER OF FACULTY TEACHING IN THE PROGRAM:** 4 full-time faculty taught 100 percent of their teaching load in the MPA program in 2017-2018. 100 percent of all MPA courses were taught by full-time program faculty. 100 percent of all MPA required (“core”) courses were taught by full-time program faculty, who were qualified both by holding a terminal degree and by extensive professional experience in the public or nonprofit sectors.

**CURRENT FACULTY IDENTIFIED WITHIN THE UNIT INCLUDING RANK:**

Dr. Elgie C. McFayden, Jr.  
Chair and Associate Professor, School of Public Administration,  
School of Government, Policy and Justice Studies & School of Social Work

Dr. Monica Valentine  
MPA Program Coordinator  
Assistant Professor, School of Public Administration

Dr. Emmanuel Amadife  
Professor, School of Public Administration

Dr. F. Erik Brooks  
Professor, School of Public Administration

Dr. Wilfred Reilly  
Associate Professor, School of Public Administration

Dr. Michael Unuakhalu  
Professor, School of Public Administration

**TUITION COST (IN-STATE AND OUT-OF-STATE):** Updated tuition and fee costs are published online by the KSU Bursar for in-state and out-of-state graduate students.

Beginning January 2015, KSU offers executive branch state employees a 25% discount off the cost of tuition. This discount leaves employees with only 75% of their regular tuition to pay. To obtain the 25% discount, KSU must receive verification of employment for those employees who have applied and been accepted as students of the university. State government employees can receive this Employee Tuition Assistance Program Employee Request for Verification of Employment from either their agency HR office or KSU Bursar's Office at [bursarmail@kysu.edu](mailto:bursarmail@kysu.edu).

**FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY:** Financial Aid information for graduate students is available on the Financial Aid webpage.

**GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS:** A limited number of graduate assistantships are available for full-time students pursuing the Master of Public Administration degree. Depending upon the availability of funds, students holding these positions work 10-20 hours per week and may receive stipends and tuition remission. Graduate assistants assist the Program Coordinator and faculty members in their instructional and research activities. Students interested in such positions should email the MPA Coordinator at [monica.valentine@kysu.edu](mailto:monica.valentine@kysu.edu). Assistantships are awarded on the basis of need and high academic achievement.

**INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT LIST:** "Pre-service" MPA students are required to complete a six-credit hour internship. Pre-service students are those who do not yet have one or more years of professional-level public or non-profit administration work experience.

Most students in our program already have a full-time job working in either a public agency or a non-profit organization and are therefore considered as "in-service". In-service students may apply for a waiver of the internship requirement, a process that is initiated with the advisor. If the work experience is judged appropriate by the advisor, the student must submit the internship waiver application which includes documentation of the positions held, job tasks, and relationship of MPA core and elective course content to the professional experience. This documentation must be approved by the MPA Program Coordinator for the waiver to be granted.

Although in the past, our students have been in-service, the MPA program currently has 2 MPA students who are pre-service. These students will complete their internship during Summer 2019, Fall 2019, and Spring 2019.

The MPA program has already secured agreements with public agencies that are willing to place our interns. Below are internship placement types and locations:

<b>Type</b>	<b>Internship Locations</b>
State	Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
State	Kentucky Personnel Cabinet
State	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Federal	Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

**GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES:** Recent alumni employment known as of is shown below.

Field of Alumni Employment	2016 Graduates	2017 Graduates	2018 Graduates
Federal Government		2	
Public Sector – State	8	6	6
Public Sector – Local			
Non-Profit Sector	1	4	4
Further Education			1
Private Sector		1	2
Unknown	2	2	2
Total	11	15	15

**COMPLETION RATES OF COHORT ENTERING 5 YEARS AGO** (these data are updated in September each year)

NOTE – these data include both those students who achieved full admission at the time of enrollment as well as individuals who were permitted to begin coursework in the MPA program under conditional admission status. Students admitted conditionally who do not satisfy all conditions within the specified time limit may not continue in the program: (see Graduate Catalog). In general, completion time depends on the number of courses students take each semester: for example, to complete the program within six semesters, students must take full course loads each semester. It may also depend on whether a student chose to earn more than one concentration. Most students in the program choose not to take a full course load due to work obligations.

5-year Cohort: Below shows the number of students who graduated each year from the MPA program

Graduation Year	# of Students	% of Cohort
2013 Graduates	16	20%
2014 Graduates	20	35%
2015 Graduates	13	23%
2016 Graduates	11	22%
2017 Graduates	15	8.5%