

A wide-angle photograph of the Houston skyline, showing numerous skyscrapers and a residential area in the foreground with trees and houses. The text 'MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION' is overlaid in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the bottom of the image.

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Master of Public Administration program at the Hobby School of Public Affairs focuses on developing ethical public service leaders. The two-year program prepares graduates to lead organizations, manage complex projects and serve the public through innovation and collaboration. The comprehensive curriculum is designed for those looking to enhance their management skills and take on leadership roles in the public sector.

The program provides a toolbox of skills for tomorrow's public servants, public managers and nonprofit professionals to address societal challenges.

- Analytical Skills
- Innovative Leadership Skills
- Strategic Planning
- Writing and Communications Skills
- Policy Implementation

Program Highlights

- **Flexible scheduling** with some online and hybrid courses available.
- **Comprehensive curriculum** in public management, public sector innovation, budgeting for public agencies, program evaluation and policy implementation.
- Students eager for a law career in the public sector can pursue a **JD/MPA dual degree**, which pairs the ethics-oriented approach to public management offered by the MPA program with the advocacy and legal analysis taught in the JD program.
- With diverse disciplinary backgrounds, **faculty members and practitioners** provide various perspectives and expertise.
- **Financial support is available** for eligible students, including Hobby School Excellence Scholarships (up to \$3,000 each semester).
- **Join a comprehensive network of students and alumni practitioners** positively shaping our communities, **community partner organizations** and a **university career** center dedicated to helping students reach their goals.

Alumni Spotlight

John W. Boerstler, Master of Public Administration, '13
Chief Veterans Experience Officer
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



“One of the greatest lessons I learned in the program is applying theory to practice as a government and nonprofit executive. For example, when we learned about building advocacy coalitions and policy networks, I used those lessons to construct a new collective impact model called ‘Combined Arms’ that united Texas’s highly fragmented military and veteran service sector. Today, Combined Arms is funded by the Texas Workforce Commission as a nonprofit connecting tens of thousands of veterans and military families to social service organizations across the state.”

Core Course Highlights



- Administrative Theory
- Public Administration and Policy Implementation
- Fundamentals of Policy Analysis
- Administrative Law
- Budgeting for Public Agencies
- Quantitative Methods I
- Decision Science for Public Affairs
- Capstone Problem Project

CONTACT US

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Application Deadlines

Fall

- » Priority: March 1*
- » International Applicants: May 1
- » Domestic Applicants: August 1

Spring

- » Priority: September 1*
- » International Applicants: October 1
- » Domestic Applicants: December 1

GRE Waiver

Applicants with a GPA of 3.3 or higher or a graduate degree are not required to submit GRE scores.

*Scholarships are prioritized for applicants who meet the priority application deadline.