



## **Master of Public Administration Program**

### **Quick Facts**

#### **What is the mission of the MPA program?**

- Kent State University's MPA Program seeks to enhance the quality of public sector and non-profit management through a faculty that is engaged in public service, and committed to teaching ethical leadership and theoretical understandings of administration; enhancing knowledge, analytical skills, and technical abilities; and emphasizing experiential learning opportunities to apply theory and skills. Our core values include pursuing the public interest with accountability and transparency; serving professionally with competence, efficiency, and objectivity; acting ethically so as to uphold the public trust; and demonstrating respect, equity, and impartiality in dealings with citizens and fellow public servants. Toward that end, the program provides graduate level education to a diverse group of public service professionals through a high quality online format.

#### **How is the program delivered?**

- The MPA program is delivered entirely online. Courses are delivered through our course management system, Blackboard Learn. Course content consists of text, narrated PowerPoint presentations, video and audio, live chats, discussion groups and other learning enhancements. To participate in this online program, you will need a computer and broadband Internet connection. Courses may have further requirements that include the ability to record video and audio.

#### **How many credit hours is the program, and how long does it take to complete?**

- The MPA program is 36 credit hours for students with administrative experience in a public service organization. Students without such experience complete an additional 3 credit hour internship. The program can be completed in 2 years including summers.

#### **How many students are in the program?**

- During the academic year 2016-2015, there were 60 students in the program.

**How many faculty teach in the program?**

- There are 7 full-time faculty members that teach courses in the program. The expertise among full-time faculty include immigration policies, administrative law, child care, community relations, tax policy and budgeting. In addition, the program uses 7 highly experienced public administrators to teach part-time in our program. The part-time faculty include practitioners who run large non-profit social service agencies, serve as CIOs in county government, and work as private attorneys and accountants. The average class size is 11 students.

**What sort of careers can graduates of the program expect?**

- Graduates of the MPA program go on to have successful careers in a variety of different public service organizations. These include organizations and agencies of the Federal government, state government, cities, counties, and regions, international organizations, military, higher education, and nonprofit organizations. Nearly half of recent graduates work in the public sector, approximately 40 percent work in the non-profit sector and a 13 percent work in the private sector. A list of current jobs held by recent graduates is included in the end of this document.

**What sort of internships do students complete while in the program?**

- Because our program caters to public service professionals who are already working full-time in the field, most students in our program are waived the internship requirement. We do, however, have a few students complete an internship each year. During the 2016-2017 academic year, 3 students completed an internship in the following organizations:
  - Spartanburg Interfaith Hospitality Network, Spartanburg, South Carolina
  - International Institute, Akron, Ohio
  - Ameri-Corp, Youngstown, Ohio

**Are graduate assistantships or forms of financial aid available?**

- Students in the MPA program typically do not receive graduate assistantships. However, students are eligible for other forms of financial aid, and can find information related to the types of aid available by visiting the Financial Aid homepage: <http://www.kent.edu/tuition>

**What is the completion rate for the MPA program?**

- Graduate students at Kent State University are required to complete their degree program within 6 years. Completion rates vary from year to year, but for the MPA cohort that entered in 2014, 19 out of 26 or 73 percent fully completed the program in 3 years.

## Job Positions of Recent MPA Program Graduates

Public Sector	Non-Profit Sector	Private Sector
Supervisor, MSA at U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs	Grant Manager, Hope's Door	Corporate Compliance Officer, Mount Comprehensive Health Corp
Finance Director, City of Louisville	Program Coordinator at National Rural Health Resource Center	First Federal Lakewood, Cleveland
Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities	Associate Director of Community Relations, Northeast Ohio Medical University	Regional Sales Specialist, Information Technology and Services
Financial Management Analyst at DoD-DFAS	Office System Coordinator, Kent State University	
Director at Canton Parks, Canton Ohio	Public Relations Specialist, St. Tammany Parish Hospital	
Homeless Management Information Systems, Snohomish County, WA	Library Director, KSU, Geauga and Regional Academic Center	
Consumer Policy Advisor at NC DHHS, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Service, Raleigh, NC	Research Grant Consultant at IUPUI, Indianapolis, Indiana	
WCSD, Washoe County School District, Reno Nevada	Chapter Services Manager, Association of Government Accountants	
Director, Health System and Planning, Ohio Department of Health	Marketing & Communications Coordinator, Grand River Academy Cleveland, Ohio	
Director, Health System and Planning, Ohio Department of Health		
Deputy City Administrator, City of Coeur d'Alene, ID		