Public Service and Public Policy, BS

Are you passionate about exploring how government and policy affect your community or the lives of others? In downtown Phoenix, the heart of Arizona's government, you'll gain an excellent foundation in public policy while you enjoy internship opportunities that build expertise for high-demand careers in the public sector.

Program Description

The BS program in public service and public policy prepares students for work in government at all levels and in nonprofit organizations through comprehensive coverage of topics in public policy, public leadership and management, and urban studies.

Students discover the challenges of management and learn how to lead a public organization and understand the process of policy development. This program examines the public sector and addresses, in a practical way, the challenges facing the public. The program is unique because it enables students to study public service, policy and administration with a professional focus.

Students select one of the following concentrations or focus areas to supplement their core courses:

- American Indian studies
- business
- criminology
- emergency management
- health policy
- law and policy
- nonprofit leadership and management
- parks and recreation management
- public leadership and management (focus area)
- public policy (focus area)
- science and technology
- social services delivery
- sustainability
- urban studies (focus area)
This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: Downtown Phoenix campus. Students from Western states who select this major and campus may be eligible for reduced nonresident tuition at a rate of 150 percent of Arizona resident tuition plus all applicable fees. Students should click the link for more information and eligibility requirements of the WUE program.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Watts College of Public Service & Community Solutions
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus [WUE](#) or online
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
- **Math Intensity:** General

Required Courses (Major Map)

- [2019 - 2020 Major Map (On-campus)](#)
- [2019 - 2020 Major Map (Online)](#)
- [Major Map (Archives)](#)

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

- Public Administration (Emergency Management), MPA
- Public Administration (NonProfit Administration), MPA
- Public Administration (Public Finance), MPA
- Public Administration (Urban Management), MPA
- Public Administration - Downtown Phoenix, MPA

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students will be advised by their academic departments to apply.

Admission Requirements
General University Admission Requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

Change of Major Requirements

A minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA is required to change into this program.

Students should refer to https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request for information about how to change a major to this program.

Attend Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the Transfer Map search to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries ranging from one week to one year, study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/
Career Opportunities

This degree program provides students with the knowledge and skills to transform government and policy at all levels. The public service sector offers sustainable, exciting and fulfilling career options. Upon graduation, students are empowered to use knowledge of the public sector as a catalyst to change the world. By understanding the challenges facing government and being well-versed in the development of multiple, useful and realistic solutions, students will contribute to the development of local, national and global communities.

The bachelor's degree program in public service and public policy prepares students for entry- and mid-level supervisory and managerial positions in city, county, state and federal agencies. For those who already have work experience, the degree provides further opportunity for promotion.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advocate</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>$33,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Planner</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Specialist</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>$41,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Manager (GM)</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>$100,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Programs Specialist</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>$44,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Behavior Research</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources Specialist (HR Specialist)</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>$60,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paralegal Assistant</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>$56,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Analyst</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>$115,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>$25,630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook ☀ Green Occupation