Master of Public Safety Leadership and Administration, MPSLA

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MPSLA Public Safety Leadership and Administration

The MPSLA is a graduate degree program designed primarily for public safety professionals. An advanced degree is increasingly important for career progression within public safety administration. Those with an advanced degree have an advantage as they seek to advance in their professions: a practical understanding of public safety organization administration. Graduates of this program should expect to find employment and advancement in all levels of government agencies as well as in private sector organizations.

At a Glance

- College/School: Watts College of Public Service & Community Solutions
- Location: online

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours including the required capstone course (PAF 509 or CRJ 505), or
33 credit hours including the required applied project (PAF 593 or CPP 593)

Required Core (15 credit hours)
PAF 505 Public Policy Analysis (3)
PAF 506 Public Budgeting and Finance (3)
PAF 507 Public Human Resource Management (3)
PAF 508 Organization Behavior (3)
PAF 571 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Analysis (3)

Electives (15 credit hours)
Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
CPP 593 Applied Project (3) or
PAF 593 Applied Project (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students should see the academic unit for approved elective course list.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in criminology or criminal justice, public administration or public service, sociology or social work, public safety or fire service management, parks and recreation management, applied sciences, environmental sciences or geography, public health, or another closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. written statement
4. two letters of recommendation
5. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

A written statement, at least one-page in length, which describes the applicant's educational and career goals and long-term professional development strategy is required.

There are no required admission examinations.

Current employment in an organization in this field or at least two years of prior professional experience in this or a related field or a bachelor's degree in a related area are required.
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.

Contact Information

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