

HOKIES IMPACT CHANGE



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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
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PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & POLICY
PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING

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UNDERGRADUATE

SMART AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND PLANNING



BLACKSBURG



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Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP) MPA FAQs

Application Matters:

What are the CPAP program application deadlines?

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis until the application deadline. However, we encourage students to apply well before the deadline to receive a timely decision. The application deadline for Spring admission is January 1. The application deadline for Summer admission is May 1, and the Fall deadline is August 1. International students have earlier deadlines that can be found on the [graduate school website](#).

What does the application timeline look like?

All applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. All supporting documents, including all three letters of recommendation, must be submitted for the application to be reviewed.

What is the minimum GPA for admission?

For admission to the MPA program, applicants must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. Students that do not have a 3.0GPA in previous studies should enroll in the Virginia Commonwealth Campus program in order to boost their GPA and demonstrate graduate study potential.

What are the applicant testing requirements?

CPAP does not require students to take the GRE. We encourage students to take this test in in order to give us a full picture of their potential.

What additional tests do international students need to take?

All non-U.S. citizens or non-U.S. permanent residents demonstrate English proficiency to ensure they enter the university with sufficient English skills necessary to function in a graduate program. A TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English

Language Testing System) test score is the most common way international applicants demonstrate English proficiency. English proficiency can also be demonstrated through a conferred bachelor's degree from an accredited university where English is the medium of instruction. If this applies to you, The Virginia Tech Graduate School will code a waiver of the

English proficiency requirement into your application once they receive and review your transcript showing degree conferral and medium of instruction as English.

For information regarding TOEFL and IELTS score minimums, as well as the score submission procedure, please visit the [Graduate School's website](#).

What are the program prerequisites?

There are no prerequisites.

Financial Assistance:

What types of financial assistance does CPAP offer?

CPAP offers a limited number of graduate assistantships on a competitive basis. Applicants should indicate their interest in financial assistance via the online application. In addition, applicants and students may also apply for assistantships outside of CPAP. A list of available assistantships across the University can be found on the VT Graduate School website. The Graduate school also has additional information about other types of assistance available to graduate students.

Program Locations:

Where are your programs located?

The MPA program is located in Blacksburg, VA; Richmond, VA; and Arlington, VA.

Program Format:

How are courses offered?

Courses are available across multiple modalities--in person in the three locations and online via Zoom and hybrid formats.

Can I participate part-time?

Yes, you can participate in the MPA program as a part-time student.

Can I transfer courses from another institution/degree?

With the approval of at least two faculty members, appropriate substitutes for up to twenty percent of the MPA coursework (9 semester hours of credit) may be transferred into the program from previous graduate work done at schools other than Virginia Tech. This includes transfer of credits from Certificate programs.

For graduate courses taken at Virginia Tech, students can appeal to the CPAP Chair to have additional coursework transferred.

For more information:

Who should I contact for more information?

For more information about CPAP programs in Blacksburg, please contact Kelly Crist at kcrist@vt.edu. For more information about CPAP programs in Arlington or Richmond, please contact Elia Amegashie at elia@vt.edu.