University of South Carolina’s MPA Program enables students to:
• Develop the knowledge and skills sought by employers in the public and non-profit sectors.
• Gain valuable professional experience through internships and capstone projects.
• Build a professional network in the public and non-profit sectors.
• Learn from leading scholars in the field of public policy and administration.

Who Should Consider the MPA Degree?
Good students from any major who are motivated to serve the public by working in public affairs are encouraged to apply for admission to our program. We also encourage applications from working professionals who wish to enhance their skills and abilities, advance in their organization, or transition into public service from another career path.

Typical Admission Requirements
• An undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0
• Three strong letters of recommendation
• Combined GRE score of approximately 300 (verbal and quant)
• Strength in one area of the application can compensate for weakness in another area to some degree
• But all students must have a passion for public service!

How Long Does the Program Take?
For full time pre-service students the program is designed to take two years. Core classes are taken in the first year and in the second year students complete electives, the Capstone course and the internship. For in-service students the program typically takes longer because most students take fewer classes. However, virtually all MPA classes are offered at night meaning that one can easily pursue the MPA degree while working.

Where do University of South Carolina MPA graduates work?
Graduates from our program currently work in all levels of government, non-profit organizations, and the private sector. For example, recent graduates work at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the U.S. Department of Justice, the South Carolina Energy Office, the South Carolina Department of Public Safety, the South Carolina Medical Association, Fulton County (GA), the city of Cayce (SC) and the city of Springdale (SC).

The Director of the MPA Program can provide more information on internship and possible career opportunities.

What Recent Graduates Say About USC’s MPA Program:
“My MPA certainly made me rise to the top of the list as compared to the candidates without similar credentials.”
- John Auvil, Budget Analyst, Federal Railroad Administration

If you are interested in learning more about USC’s MPA Program, please contact:
Professor Chris Witko
Director, MPA Program
Department of Political Science
Gambrell Hall, Room 323
phone: 803-777-4547
e-mail: witko@sc.edu