

Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management

The School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences (EPPS) offers a graduate certificate in Local Government Management for local government professionals and for Master of Public Affairs (MPA) students who desire to broaden their knowledge of important issues and approaches employed by professional local public administrators. Local governments in the United States play an important role in our democratic system, and provide citizens with the most direct contact with elected and appointed officials on numerous issues.

Local government managers operate in a complex legal and political environment. They are responsible for the provision of varied services directly to citizens, such as land use planning, law enforcement, water and sewer services, and recreation. The management of cities and counties has become increasingly professional over the past several decades, and both the method and quality of services are greatly influenced by managers. How the professional staff delivers services to the public within the political environment in which it works is the topic of many of the courses in this certificate program.

Admissions

Students seeking the Local Government Management certificate must have completed an undergraduate degree. Primary admission requirements are: (1) an application to UT Dallas, and (2) an undergraduate transcript. Applicants for the certificate program do not need a GRE (Graduate Record Examination) score or letters of reference for admission.

Certificate Requirements

The Local Government Management Certificate requires completion of four (4) graduate courses (12 semester credit hours) in local government management. The courses taken for this certificate will apply to the MPA degree requirements if the student meets the conditions for full admission as a graduate student to the MPA program. Permission of the Public Affairs Program advisor must be obtained for the elective course. The certificate must be completed within 3 years of acceptance to the program with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in all courses.

Required Courses – Nine (9) Semester Credit Hours:

PA 6321 Government Financial Management and Budgeting
PA 6344 Local Government Management
PA 6345 Human Resources Management

Prescribed Elective Courses – Three (3) Semester Credit Hours Choose one from the following:

PA 6315 Evaluating Program and Organization Performance
PA 6324 Urban Planning
PA 6326 Decision Tools for Managers
PA 6342 Local Economic Development
PA 6370 Project and Contract Management
PA 6386 Diversity Management

For more information contact:

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