



## » Master of Public Service

A professional education that equips you with the knowledge, skills and experience you need for a vital and effective career at any level of government in Canada.

### THE WORLD IS CHANGING

In an era of rapid technological change, shifting demographics, economic uncertainty, and globalization, the Canadian public service needs employees with the knowledge and ingenuity to ensure resources, organizational capacity, and effective communications are in place to meet the challenges ahead.

### GET READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Waterloo's Master of Public Service (MPS) is a professional graduate program that seeks to build upon Canada's strong public service reputation by providing students with the training they need to hit the ground running in their new government careers.

Open to students from a wide range of undergraduate disciplines, the MPS program provides an advanced education, covering subjects such as government structure and functions, current public issues, policy development, and project administration. Students also develop necessary critical and applied skills in communication, finance, and leadership/management. The 20-month program combines coursework, an 8-month co-operative work experience in government and a major team project.

### MPS COURSES

- Government, Politics and the Public Service
- Government Finance: Accounting & Accountability
- Aboriginal Issues in Government
- Public Policy Development
- Communicating with Diverse Audiences
- Project Management in Government
- Values and Ethics in Government
- Effective Problem-Solving and Decision-Making
- Effective Leadership and Management

## MPS PROGRAM OF STUDY

### Courses

Students in the program will experience interdisciplinary learning by being exposed to instructors and courses from a range of relevant disciplines at the University of Waterloo. In addition, students will benefit from the occasional participation of senior-level public servants, who will visit to give special seminars and lead classes.

### Co-op

A vital aspect of training for the public service is on-the-job work experience. For this reason the MPS program requires students to participate in an 8-month paid co-op work term with a government department or agency at the national, provincial, regional, or local level. In pursuit of co-op employment, students complete an application and interview process facilitated on-campus by Co-operative Education and Career Services (CECS).

### Major Team Project

A major team project in the final term of study allows students to further develop collaborative work skills and expertise in a specific area of public service. The project is normally undertaken by teams of three or four students and addresses an approved topic derived from their co-op work experience, coursework, or mutual interest in a relevant public service issue.

## PUBLIC SERVICE CAREERS

Graduates from the MPS program will be well positioned to enter positions in the public service at the federal, provincial/territorial, and municipal/regional levels. With the program's 8-month co-op work term, MPS students not only gain relevant work experience, they also have opportunities to make the professional connections so crucial to career development. MPS grads could begin careers in areas such as policy research and development, communications and public affairs, financial management, planning and engineering, health services, immigration, information technology, statistics, project management, or Aboriginal affairs.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The MPS program is multi-disciplinary and considers applicants from most undergraduate (or graduate) disciplines. Applicants should meet the following minimum requirements:

- 4-year Honours Bachelor's degree, or its equivalent
- An overall average of at least 78% (B+) in the final two years of the degree
- Applicants whose native language is not English may need to demonstrate competency in English (see Waterloo's Graduate Studies Calendar for required English test scores and exemptions.)

Application supporting material includes:

- Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Three letters of reference, two of which must be from academic sources
- Statement of interest (maximum of 500 words)
- Resume (maximum of two pages)

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Admission is for the fall term only with an application deadline of February 15. Applications are completed online at [grad.uwaterloo.ca/students/applyingonline.asp](http://grad.uwaterloo.ca/students/applyingonline.asp)



### For more information

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