

MPA Program Admission

Students seeking admission to one of the Center's programs should have an undergraduate degree and a desire for graduate study in public administration. A student must have an undergraduate grade point average of 3.00. A student whose overall undergraduate grade point average is less than 3.00, but who presents acceptable evidence of professional potential shown through recent academic performance and experiential background, may be admitted by special action of the Center.

The application process consists of two separate applications. One application is submitted to the University, and the other is submitted to the Graduate Center for Public Policy and Administration. Both applications should be submitted at the same time. Both application processes must be complete before you may begin the MPA Program.

CSULB Application

All students must apply to the University for admission as a graduate student. You must be admitted by the University, or you will not be able to take graduate courses. University requirements for admission as a graduate student are listed in the CSULB Catalog. Application to the University is available on line at www.csumentor.edu. To apply, you must submit to the University:

1. Graduate application
2. One official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
3. Application fee

MPA Application

Students applying for admission to one of the Center's programs are required to submit:

1. Application
2. Copies of transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
3. Two letters of recommendation from members of the academic profession or from persons in positions of administrative leadership.
4. A one or two page statement concerning the applicant's reasons and plans for pursuing a career in public administration.

Graduate and Post-baccalaureate TOEFL Scores

Public Policy and Administration which requires a 600 TOEFL (applicants taking the Computer-Based Test of English as a Foreign Language must present a score of 232 or above) will not be waived from the TOEFL requirement. For this exemption to remain valid for other students, once having met the exemption, the student must not have left the U.S.A. for more than two years to reside or study in a country where English is not the predominant language of business, education and day-to-day societal functions. For more information see CSULB Catalog.

Following admission to the University and acceptance in one of the graduate programs, each student should meet with a faculty advisor. The faculty advisor will provide advice to the student on program course requirements and elective opportunities, and counsel the student in the chosen elective area.