

MPA Mission and Goals

The Bloch MPA program is designed to prepare entrepreneurial and innovative public service leaders and executives to be effective and successful in an increasingly complex and dynamic world. Graduates of the Master of Public Administration program have the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively and ethically lead and manage dynamic public service organizations.

The student learning outcomes for the MPA program are:

1. To lead and manage in public governance.
2. To participate in and contribute to the public policy process.
3. To analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions.
4. To articulate and apply a public service perspective.
5. To communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.
6. To lead in entrepreneurial and innovative ways.

As a program housed in an urban metropolitan public university, our MPA exists to meet the needs of those who aspire to be effective leaders and managers in public service organizations and, by extension, the needs of organizations and communities in which they serve. We serve students at all stages of their careers, from pre-service to highly experienced, currently employed in or aspiring to join the health care, nonprofit, and government organizations of our region.

Our mission reflects our commitment to provide a world-class graduate education to our students. It is our intent that our mission and goals advance the following public service values:

- Effective public service professionals exhibit the highest level of professional competence and performance in their work, and ensure that the needs of all citizens and constituents are addressed as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- Effective public service professionals understand and maintain the public's trust through ethical and effective leadership and management, and exhibit the highest levels of transparency and accountability in all that they do.
- Effective public service professionals are respectful of and responsive to the needs of all citizens of the communities they serve, ensuring that they and their organizations exhibit the highest standards of inclusion, fairness, equity, and accountability.
- Effective public service professionals are prepared to lead and serve in an increasingly diverse local, regional, and global environment.
- Effective public service professionals are entrepreneurial and innovative in addressing the increasingly complex and demanding challenges confronting the communities and organizations they serve.

Through its activities, people, and resources, the UMKC MPA program aspires to achieve the following goals:

- Transformative educational experience. The UMKC MPA experience is transformative, effectively preparing its students to succeed in public service careers and roles of significance and impact in all three sectors.
- Innovation and discovery. The UMKC MPA program provides the venue for, and thought leadership in, innovation and discovery to address public sector challenges.
- Community engagement. The UMKC MPA program is highly responsive to, and strives to meet the needs of, the community in which it serves. It actively and effectively attracts students from its community and engages them and community stakeholders in helping to meet the community's public service challenges.