

Joint BA/MPP in Public Policy Studies (Harris)

The University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy offers students an opportunity to begin their professional training in public policy while still in the College, leading to the awarding of a four-year undergraduate degree in their declared major and a two-year master of public policy (MPP) degree after five years of studies at the University of Chicago.

The MPP is a professional degree program designed for students who wish to gain rigorous training in public policy skills and issues. The core curriculum draws on a variety of disciplines and fields, including economics, statistics, sociology, political science, political economy, organizational theory, and program evaluation. These areas provide a foundation in critical analysis, reflecting Harris Public Policy's belief that mastering quantitative and analytical skills prepares students to be effective public policy leaders.

Program Requirements

Students selected to participate in the joint degree program must meet all normal BA requirements for their particular field of study, as well as all general education requirements. In addition, joint degree students in the BA/MPP program must satisfy the following criteria:

1. Students are encouraged to complete all general education and BA requirements in their third year in the College before beginning the MPP degree in the fourth year. Students with two or fewer courses remaining in the BA, excluding any thesis, research, or final paper requirements, are eligible for admission with approval from the Harris Department of Academic and Student Affairs. The remaining courses can be double-counted toward the BA and MPP, but courses must be graduate level courses (courses numbered 30000 or above). Students must complete all BA requirements before beginning the fifth year.
2. Applicants are expected to have a GPA of 3.25 or higher.
3. All majors are strongly encouraged to apply.
4. Students must have completed at least one course, at any level, in at least two of the following three areas at the College: microeconomics, statistics, or calculus. Examination credit will not be accepted for this requirement, i.e., AP course work.
5. Students must register for at least nine courses (900 units of credit) in their fifth year.
6. PPHA courses taken prior to entering the BA/MPP program will not count toward the MPP. If the courses taken prior to matriculation are required for the MPP, the student will substitute them with approved electives.
7. Students enter joint residence status during the three quarters prior to the anticipated date of College graduation, during which time they will be charged tuition at Harris's master's rates. Students will still be eligible for financial aid from the College while in joint residence.
8. Students must complete all requirements of the MPP, as stated in the Graduate Announcements (<http://registrar.uchicago.edu/page/catalogs-and-announcements>), to receive the BA/MPP degree.

Application Procedures

Before beginning the application process with Harris, students are encouraged to first meet with their College adviser. Students should make appointments during their second year to ensure that all College requirements are met. After reviewing with their College adviser, students should speak with the College BA/MA adviser (Pete Segall, psegall@uchicago.edu) and Jenny Erikson, associate director of student recruitment at Harris (jerickson1@uchicago.edu), early in the third year. Interested students should submit their formal application to the program by April 15 of their third year in the College: <https://apply-harris.uchicago.edu/apply>. Please note that BA/MPP applicants are exempt from the application fee and do not have to submit a GRE score.

For more information, please email Jenny Erikson, associate director of student recruitment at Harris at jerickson1@uchicago.edu.



Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Trajan.

Times was used instead of Palatino.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.