For six decades, the School of Public Policy and Administration has been the leading centre for Canadian scholarship and graduate education in policy and administration — examining what governments do, why, and how they could do it better.

The Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) produces analytic thinkers and highly effective communicators, able to meet the increasingly interdisciplinary and complicated policy challenges of our time.

Through academically grounded coursework, co-op opportunities, professional skills workshops and diverse professional networking opportunities, the MPPA provides a comprehensive and rigorous preparation for many diverse careers. Students in the MPPA can take up to two paid, co-operative education work terms.

The PhD in Public Policy is an advanced research degree — one of the few in Canada. It produces sophisticated analysts with the abilities and experience they need to advance the state of knowledge across a range of Canadian and international public policy issues.

Specializations in Data Science and Political Economy, as well as a concentration in Indigenous Policy and Administration are also available.

Both the MPPA and PhD programs are enriched by speakers, guest lecturers, skills workshops, tours and first-class research facilities.

Degrees Offered
MPPA, PhD

Career Options
Graduates from the MPPA work in governments; consulting firms specializing in public policy; corporate government relations divisions; and governmental and non-governmental organizations at the national or international level.

"The Carleton PhD program provided a world-class grounding in public policy, enabling me to research and teach at the highest levels in a fast-changing international environment."
— Barbara Allen, PhD/05, Assistant Professor, Public Management and Policy, The University of Warwick

Fall Application Deadline
February 1, to be considered for funding. Applications received by May 1 are not considered for funding and are reviewed subject to the number of spaces remaining.

Admission Requirements
MPPA: Applicants must have a four-year bachelor's degree (or equivalent) with at least a B+ average.

PhD: An MA degree in any of public administration, political science, economics, political economy, business administration, law, or similar degrees with an A- average or higher in their MA work.

"Anyone who wants to be a leader of tomorrow should go to Carleton today."
— Arun Thangaraj, MAPA/97, Director General and DCFO Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada

Contact Info
613-520-2547
sppa@carleton.ca