
Whether it's learning the characteristics of leadership, finding solutions to complex public policy challenges or preparing for the inevitable changes looming in a fast-paced environment, the School of Public Affairs will help you excel. Faculty members cultivate strong collaborations with their peers throughout Europe, Asia, Australia and the Americas, and the school's alumni have gone on to professions in public policy and nonprofit leadership around the world.

The University of Colorado Denver is a fully accredited, highly respected academic and health sciences institution that has welcomed international students from 130 countries. The university’s English as a Second Language Academy not only prepares student in English language proficiency, it also supports their success as university students.

Denver is a vibrant city with a rich international culture and one of the strongest city economies in the United States. Set against the backdrop of America’s scenic Rocky Mountains, CU Denver is a great place for international students to share in the dynamic mix of world-class intellectual, cultural and recreational amenities.

For more information about the School of Public Affairs at CU Denver, visit: spa.ucdenver.edu

To apply and to learn more about the international student experience at CU Denver, please visit the International Admission website: internationaladmissions.ucdenver.edu

Mailing/Physical Address:
International Admissions
Academic Building One
1201 Larimer Street
Denver, CO 80204
Phone: 303.315.2382
Email: applications@ucdenver.edu
spa@ucdenver.edu
The School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver prepares the next generation of great leaders in public and nonprofit service. The school’s highly ranked academic degrees attract students who are passionate about making the world a better place.

At the School of Public Affairs you will work with faculty members who are internationally known for their research in public administration and management, public finance, criminal justice, nonprofit management and the public policy process. You will also learn from respected practitioners who work in federal, state and local governments and in nonprofit organizations.

Ranked in the top 30 of schools of public affairs and administration in the United States, the School of Public Affairs also is distinguished by its highly ranked concentrations in environmental policy and management, nonprofit management, public finance, criminal justice, nonprofit management and public management and administration.

“Welcome to the School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver. We are proud of our national standing and our reputation for scholarly research, high-quality degree programs and service to the community. Our international students and scholars are an important part of our school, bringing perspectives and experiences that enrich our work and link all of us in a global community.”

P.S. TEAKLE, PHD, DEAN

School of Public Affairs Degree Programs

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)

The MPA program prepares students to take leadership roles in public administration and nonprofit management. Students complete six core courses and may use their five electives to specialize in such areas as nonprofit management, emergency management and environmental policy. Students also undertake a capstone project that pairs them with a public or nonprofit sector client to solve real-world problems.

The MPA program is available in both classroom and online formats. An accelerated program allows students to earn a degree in one year.

The MPA degree can be combined with other degree programs. Students may enroll in an undergraduate program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and earn both an undergraduate degree and an MPA degree in five years. Other dual degree options include the MPA-JD degree through the University of Colorado School of Law, the MPA-MS in Economics degree through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Economics Department, the MPA-MPH degree through the Colorado School of Public Health and the MPA-MCI degree through the School of Public Affairs.

MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE (MCJ)

The MCJ program prepares students for leadership positions in criminal justice and criminology. Concentrations in domestic violence, emergency management and homeland security are offered, and the program is also available online.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS (PhD)

The PhD program provides a rigorous research-oriented course of study for advanced students. It offers small class sizes and the opportunity to work closely with leading scholars in public affairs.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (BACJ)

The BACJ program offers excellent preparation for work in the criminal justice sector and for graduate study in law and other programs. Exceptional students may earn both the BACJ and MCJ degrees in five years. The program also is available online.

How to Apply

International Student Application for the School of Public Affairs

Please submit:

Undergraduate Applicants

- Completed online application, available at internationaladmissions.ucdenver.edu
- USD$75 application fee (do not send cash)
- Official secondary school transcripts/mark sheets
- Official post-secondary school transcripts/mark sheets (transfer students only)
- Proof of English language proficiency or completion of the ESL Academy

Graduate Applicants

- Completed online application, available at internationaladmissions.ucdenver.edu
- USD$75 application fee (do not send cash)
- Official post-secondary school transcripts/mark sheets with a certified English translation (if transcript is not originally in English)
- Proof of English language proficiency or completion of the ESL Academy
- Official GRE scores, per program requirements. The CU Denver institutional code for the GRE is 4875. For more information, please visit www.ets.org/gre.
- Three letters of recommendation from faculty at your previous college/university
- Statement of purpose
- Current résumé or curriculum vitae (CV)
- Check with your program of interest for any additional requirements

Please do not send financial documentation at this time. You will be prompted to provide International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) with your proof of financial support after you have received admission and are requested to complete an online Immigration Clearance Form.

Additional information or documents may be requested to process your application and all application materials should be sent to International Admissions. For more information about GRE, TOEFL/IELTS, or GPA minimum requirements, please visit the International Admissions website at internationaladmissions.ucdenver.edu or the School of Public Affairs website at spa.ucdenver.edu.