

# Public Administration | Bachelor's Degree

|                                                       | FIRST YEAR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | MIDDLE YEARS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | LAST YEARS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| <b>ADVANCE</b><br>your academic journey               | <p>Meet with a <a href="#">First Year Advisor</a> to develop your academic planning.</p> <p>Explore majors with a <a href="#">MyMajors assessment</a>.</p> <p>Meet with the Public Administration <a href="#">Undergraduate Program Director</a> to develop your academic planning within your selected major.</p> <p>Take advantage of the <a href="#">Student Learning Assistance Center</a> (Tutoring).</p>                                                                                                                                          | <p>Meet with the Public Administration <a href="#">Undergraduate Program Director</a> to explore <a href="#">3+2 Accelerated Degree Program</a> (BA + MA) opportunities.</p> <p>Visit the <a href="#">College of Liberal Arts Advising Center</a> for guidance with successful degree completion, identifying resources, and help achieving academic, personal, and professional goals.</p> <p>Explore external scholarship opportunities such as the <a href="#">Fulbright</a> Scholarship to take your expertise to unique locations abroad.</p> <p>Seek <a href="#">scholarship opportunities</a> offered by the College of Liberal Arts.</p>                                                         | <p>Meet with the Public Administration <a href="#">Undergraduate Program Director</a> to check your Degree Audit and confirm preparations for graduation.</p> <p>Complement your degree with a <a href="#">micro credential</a>.</p> <p>Meet with a faculty mentor or peer advisor.</p> <p>Complete a capstone project related to major.</p>                                                                     |
| <b>EXPAND</b><br>your personal and social development | <p>Review your degree plan for course options that include the <a href="#">Service-Learning Excellence</a> program.</p> <p>Build social networks by joining events and organizations through <a href="#">the Bobcat Organization Club</a>.</p> <p>Attend a <a href="#">Department of Political Science Event</a> to get acclimated to the department (which houses the BPA program) and become part of the community.</p> <p>Attend the <a href="#">College of Liberal Arts Undergraduate Research Expo</a> to explore innovative student research.</p> | <p>Consider <a href="#">political science study abroad opportunities</a> to enrich your understanding of the field and immerse yourself in global practices and perspectives. <a href="#">Education Abroad</a> also offers faculty-led, exchange, virtual, and short-term affiliated programs.</p> <p>Join a <a href="#">political science affiliated organization</a> to expand your academic experience, network with peers and professionals, and gain invaluable career skills.</p> <p>Discover <a href="#">Global Online Learning Experiences</a> for courses with culturally dynamic perspectives.</p> <p>Participate in <a href="#">The Big Event</a> to give back to the regional community.</p> | <p>Seek out a leadership role with the <a href="#">Leadership &amp; Service</a>.</p> <p>Consider joining <a href="#">Peace Corps Prep</a> to learn how to gain valuable international experience, make a global impact, and engage in meaningful cultural exchange.</p> <p>Attend a <a href="#">Student Government Senate</a> meeting to contribute to your fellow students and your own student experience.</p> |
| <b>ENRICH</b><br>your practical competence            | <p>Explore the <a href="#">TXST One Stop</a> for more information about the scholarships provided to new and continuing students.</p> <p>Research <a href="#">Public Administration Internship Opportunities</a> to facilitate skill development and get a sense of future career opportunities.</p> <p>Attend an <a href="#">IDEA Center</a> workshop to learn more about undergraduate research.</p>                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Become familiar with the <a href="#">Department of Political Science's internship opportunities and requirements</a> before participating.</p> <p>Become a mentee through the <a href="#">COLA mentoring program</a> which connects students with alumni for career advice, networking, and professional development.</p> <p>Join <a href="#">Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA)</a> national honor society to be recognized for your academic excellence and connect with a growing network of professionals and scholars in the field.</p> <p>Review <a href="#">micro internship opportunities</a> for professional development in which you learn and earn.</p>                                                 | <p>Learn about <a href="#">Global Career Accelerator</a> options that give you experience with global companies and in-demand tech skills.</p> <p>Join a professional organization in your major or passion.</p> <p>Deliver a presentation in a student conference, workshop, seminar or community organization.</p>                                                                                             |
| <b>ELEVATE</b><br>your career and professional life   | <p>Meet with the Public Administration <a href="#">Undergraduate Program Director</a> to ensure course selections align with career objectives.</p> <p>Complete your <a href="#">Career Assessments</a>, such as Focus2.</p> <p>Create your <a href="#">Handshake</a> profile.</p> <p>Create your <a href="#">LinkedIn</a> profile and connect with colleagues and leaders.</p>                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>Develop and review your <a href="#">resume with Career Services</a>.</p> <p>Build <a href="#">Career &amp; Graduate School Fairs</a> into your schedule to ensure your connection maximum opportunities.</p> <p>Join <a href="#">Employer Information Sessions</a> at Career Services or your department.</p> <p>Prepare to <a href="#">ace your job interviews</a> with Career Services.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>Develop a full-time employment or graduate school plan with <a href="#">Career Services</a>.</p> <p>Complete your <a href="#">First Destination Survey</a> to share your post-graduation plans.</p> <p>Identify and establish faculty and professional references.</p>                                                                                                                                        |

## OUTCOMES

## Marketable Skills

Think critically

Analyze and solve problems

Communicate clearly and effectively

Analyze public policy processes

Classify and analyze information using Excel for data management and display

[See more marketable skills for this major](#)

## Experiences in Public Administration

The public administration major at Texas State University is a gateway to a dynamic and impactful career in government, nonprofit leadership, and public service. This program goes beyond textbooks, equipping students with analytical, leadership, and problem-solving skills needed to tackle real-world challenges. Students learn how policies are created and implemented, how governments and organizations operate, and how to drive meaningful change in communities. The learning doesn't stop in the classroom. A required internship provides hands-on experience, allowing students to apply their knowledge in government agencies, nonprofits, and policy organizations. Students can also expand their horizons through study abroad, engage with student organizations, and build connections through leadership roles, research projects, and honor societies. By graduation, students are ready to take on the world—whether as policymakers, city managers, nonprofit leaders, or legal experts. With practical experience, a powerful network, and a passion for public service, they are prepared to make a real difference in the lives of others.

## Career Opportunities

Public administration graduates can pursue diverse career opportunities in government, policy and budgeting, nonprofit leadership, strategic management, law and regulatory affairs, international and urban development, education and research, emergency management, technology, and advanced specialization.

- Government & Public administration: City Manager, City Planner, County Administrator, State Agency Director, Public Affairs Director, Legislative Analyst, Economic Development Director, Public Policy Director, Government Program Coordinator.
- Policy & Budgeting: Policy Analyst, Policy Advisor, Budget Analyst, Fiscal Policy Analyst, Program Evaluator, Auditor, Government Affairs Coordinator, Performance Management Analyst.
- Nonprofit & Advocacy: Nonprofit Executive Director, Grant Writer, Community Development Specialist, Human Rights Advocate, Labor Union Organizer, Public Interest Researcher, Philanthropy Advisor.
- Strategic & Public sector management: Public Sector Consultant, Program Administrator, Project Manager, Risk Management Officer, Public Relations Consultant, Crisis Response Coordinator, Strategic Planning Manager.
- Law & Regulatory affairs: Lawyer, Paralegal, Legislative Liaison, Compliance Officer, Regulatory Affairs Manager, Legal Research Analyst, Ethics and Accountability Officer, Contract Administrator.
- International & Urban development: Foreign Service Officer, International Development Specialist, Urban Development Coordinator, Sustainability Policy Advisor, Humanitarian Aid Coordinator, Environmental Policy Analyst.
- Education & Research: Civic Education Coordinator, Public Policy Researcher, Training and Development Manager, Higher Education Administrator, Public Affairs Professor, Curriculum Developer.
- Emergency & Crisis Management: Homeland Security Analyst, Disaster Response Coordinator, Emergency Management Director.