

MPA Program Fact Sheet

Master in Public Administration

Graduate School of Public Policy, Nazarbayev University

Mode of Program Delivery: In-person instruction

Number of ECTS (credit points): 92

Length of degree: 18 months

Specialisms available: economic policy; international political economy; public governance

Number of students 2021-22 cohort: 39

The mission of GSPP is:

To improve the quality of life of the people of Kazakhstan and Central Asia. We do this by training leaders to strengthen governance through excellence in teaching, research, and executive development that focuses on key policy and leadership challenges.

The mission of MPA program is to provide mid/senior level practitioners with academic and professional education which will inform their working practices and raise the standard of governance in Kazakhstan and Central Asia.

On successful completion of the program graduates will have the ability to:

- i. lead and manage in public governance;
- ii. participate in and contribute to the policy process;
- iii. analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions;
- iv. articulate and apply a public service perspective;
- v. communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.

Professional competency: in addition, the program will ensure that students learn to apply their education, such as through experiential exercises and interactions with practitioners across the broad range of public affairs, administration, and policy professions and sectors (Source: MPA Student Handbook).

Number of Faculty teaching on the Program: 12

| Course | ECTS Credits | Faculty |
|--|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| MPA 602: Public Administration Theory and Practice | 8 | Aziz Burkhanov PhD |
| MPA 603: Economic Applications for Public Managers | 8 | Omer Baris PhD |
| MPA 605: Research Methods for Public Managers | 8 | Clifford Frasier PhD |
| SEMESTER SUBTOTAL: | 24 | |
| MPA 608: Strategic Management and Leadership | 8 | Artan Karini PhD |
| MPA 610: Program Evaluation | 8 | Stefanos Xenarios PhD |
| MPA 699: Masters Project with overseas component (I) | 0 | Riccardo Pelizzo PhD |
| Elective 1 | 8 | Dina Sharipova PhD & Peter Howie |
| SEMESTER SUBTOTAL: | 24 | |
| MPA 699: Masters Project with overseas component (II) | 0 | Riccardo Pelizzo PhD |
| MPA 607: Fiscal Management and Budgeting | 8 | Donald Low and Eduardo Araral PhD |
| SEMESTER SUBTOTAL: | 8 | |
| MPA 609: Human Resource Policy and Management | 8 | Artan Karini, PhD |
| MPA 699: Masters Project with overseas component (III) | 12 | Riccardo Pelizzo PhD |
| Elective 2 | 8 | Simeon Nanovsky PhD |
| Elective 3 | 8 | Serik Orazagaliyev PhD |
| SEMESTER SUBTOTAL | 36 | |
| TOTAL | 92 | |

Cost of the degree

Tuition costs for the MPA are funded through a state grant for the Government of Kazakhstan's higher education budget for local applicants

Places are also available on a self-paying basis

A small number of grants are also available for international applicants

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Eligibility:

1. Bachelor's degree or equivalent;
2. Minimum 3 years of working experience. Applicants should have attained mid- to senior level managerial position in their career stage.
3. English proficiency: IELTS – minimum overall score 6.5 with no less than 6.0 in sub categories, or its TOEFL equivalent (compare your TOEFL score here).
English language certifications are valid for 2 years prior to application deadline. At the discretion of the Admissions Committee applicants can be exempted from submitting the language proficiency test report if:
 - one of their earlier academic degrees was earned in a country with English as the language of official communication, academic instruction and daily life;
 - an undergraduate degree was earned in a program which was officially taught in English;
 - the applicant is a graduate of Nazarbayev University.

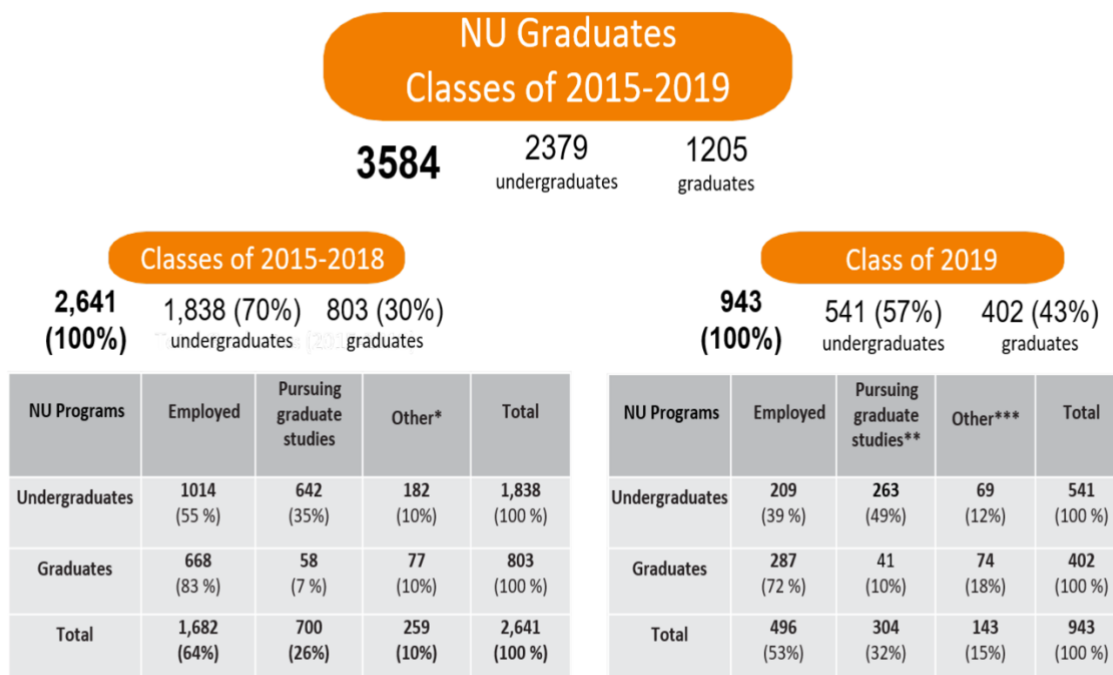
Criteria for Selection:

A successful candidate must demonstrate intellectual distinction (will be assessed by prior academic achievements, recommendations, essays) and leadership capabilities (will be assessed by prior achievements in extracurricular, civic or community activities, employment history, and recommendations).

Please note that meeting the minimum requirements do not imply automatic admission into the program.

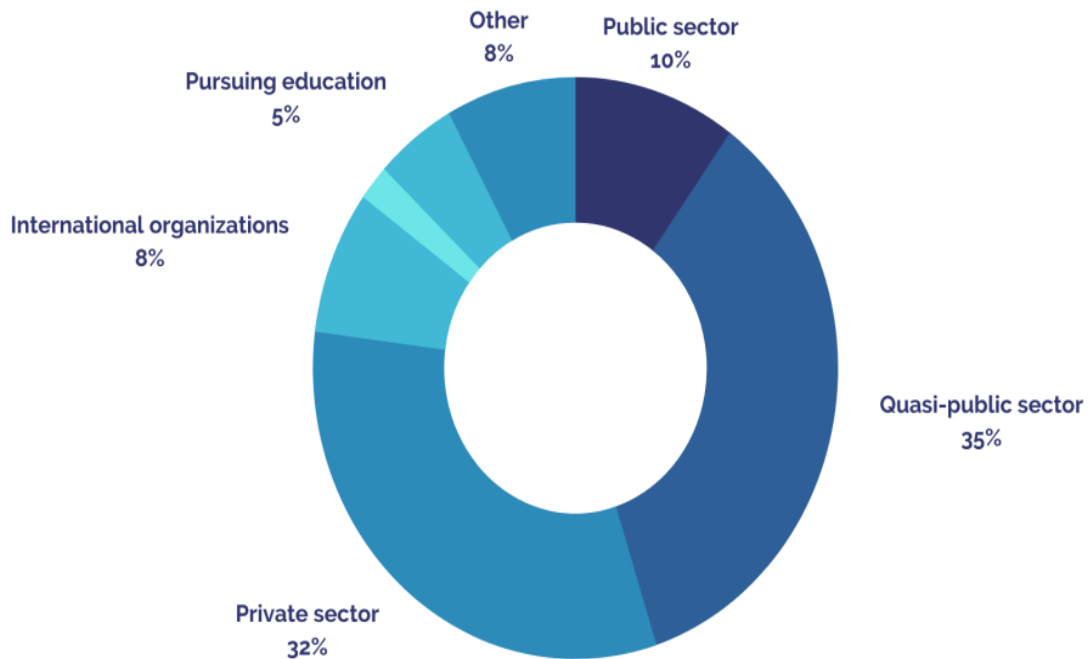
Career Services

Nazarbayev University has a dedicated Career and Advising Center (CAC). The most recent data at the University level show a high percentage of graduates in employment or further education.



* Other: career break, maternity leave, seeking employment, deceased

NU GSPP Alumni Community have different backgrounds and occupations. NU GSPP graduates of all cohorts work mostly in quasi-public, private sector, public sector and international organizations. Among employer organizations there are: Akimat of Nur-Sultan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Aerospace Committee of the Ministry of Digital Development, Defence and Aerospace Industry, Ministry of Industry and Infrastructure Development, Ministry of Information and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture, Anti-corruption agency, national companies like KazMunayGas, Baiterek, Transtelecom, Republican Center for Health Development, Nazarbayev University, Academy of Public Administration; Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC), UN organizations (UNDP, UN Volunteers), Islamic Organization for Food Security, World Bank, US Embassy in Kazakhstan and private companies in Kazakhstan and abroad.



Source: see <https://gspp.nu.edu.kz/en/alumni/>

Current students

Internship opportunities are available for MPA students in Ministries, government agencies and semi-state bodies: see further details at:

<https://gspp.nu.edu.kz/en/career-services-for-students/>

Completion rate

Graduation Rate of Masters Student¹

| | Admitted students (n) | Cumulative Graduation rates | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | | Within 2 years | Within 3+ years |
| Public Administration | 155 | 75.5% | 84.2% |

¹ Note: 2-year graduation rate is based on cohorts that have been in the program for at least two years (Fall 2013 - Fall 2019 cohorts); 3-year graduation rate - based on cohorts that have been for at least three years (Fall 2013-Fall 2018).