

Department of Public Administration

Contact Information:

Campus Location: 2100 AEH, 400 S. Peoria St, Chicago, IL 60607
(312) 996-3109
<https://cuppa.uic.edu/academics/pa/pa-programs/ba-public-policy>

Administration:

Academic Advisor and Program Manager, Sharon Hayes, shar@uic.edu

Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy

Public Policy is a field that promotes the understanding of public problems and how governments and the public attempt to address them. Public Policy provides excellent preparation for careers in government at all levels (federal, state, local), as well as the nonprofit sector, law, and consulting. Given the impact public policy has on medicine, engineering, technology, and other key sectors of the global economy, a minor in Public Policy provides critical knowledge for students pursuing careers in these fields.

This program focuses on the systematic analysis of public policy issues and decision processes, and includes instruction in the role of economic and political factors in public decision-making and policy formulation, microeconomic analysis of policy issues, resource allocation and decision modeling, cost/benefit analysis, statistical methods, and through a three-course specialization sequence, includes applications to specific public policy topics. Students may enter as freshmen or as transfer students from other programs or universities. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00/4.00 in all course work taken at UIC and a minimum GPA of 2.50/4.00 in all course work counting toward core program requirements (see below).

Admission Requirements

New first year students interested in admission to the BA in Public Policy program must apply using the Common Application and be admitted by the Department of Public Administration, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. Admission is competitive, and preference is given to those applicants selected to have the best potential for academic success. See the [Admissions](#) section for more information.

Transfer students who have completed a minimum of 24 semester hours or 36 quarter hours of transferable college course work by the time of application, and do not meet the definition of an incoming first year or readmission applicant may apply to transfer into the BA in Public Policy. While 24 semester or 36 quarter hours are the minimum number of hours required, most curricula require additional credit hours and the completion of some specific core first year courses. See the [Admissions](#) section for additional information. See the Office of Admission [Transfer Guide](#) for more information about transfer admission requirements.

Grade Point Average

A student must earn a cumulative grade point average of 2.00/4.00 in all work taken at UIC and a cumulative grade point average of 2.50/4.00 for required courses (core program requirements) for the Public Policy degree. In addition, the combined grade point average of a student's transfer work and work taken at UIC must be at least 2.00.

Minor in Civic Analytics

The Minor in Civic Analytics is open to all undergraduate students. Students must meet the minimum GPA requirement of 2.50/4.00 at the time of application. A minimum GPA of 2.00/4.00 for the 15 hours of course work is required to complete the minor. Students must submit a request form online and consult their home colleges about the acceptability and applicability of course credits toward their degrees. To meet the residency requirement, students must complete at least half of their minor course work at UIC.

The minor is distinct from the -UPPA concentration in the BS in Data Science program; therefore, courses used to complete the requirements in that program cannot also be applied toward the Minor in Civic Analytics. However, students are allowed to use the same course to satisfy the requirements of more than one minor within the department or college.

Minor in Nonprofit Management

The Minor in Nonprofit Management is open to all undergraduate students. Students must meet the minimum GPA requirement of 2.50/4.00 at the time of the application. Students must also consult their home colleges about the acceptability and applicability of College of Urban Planning and Affairs course credit toward their degrees.

Students who want to minor in nonprofit management must complete 15 semester hours, with at least 9 hours at the 200-level or above, and at least three courses taken at UIC. A minimum GPA of 2.00/4.00 for the 15 hours of course work is required to complete the minor.

Minor in Public Policy

The minor in Public Policy is open to undergraduate students from any unit or college at UIC. Note that students who are pursuing a BA in Urban Studies may not count courses on this list toward both the degree and the Public Policy minor. Students must submit a request form to the Department of Public Administration (shar@uic.edu or 2108 AEH, 400 S. Peoria St.) to enroll. Note that students pursuing a BA in Urban and Public Affairs (UPA) or Urban Studies (US) and the minor in Public Policy may not use the same courses for both the degree and minor. Students are encouraged to consult with their primary advisor in their home unit about the suitability of the Public Policy minor to their overall academic plan of study. Elective courses may have prerequisites that do not count toward the minor. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.50/4.00 in all course work counting toward the minor.

Degree Programs

- [BA in Public Policy](#)
- [Joint BA in Public Policy and Master of Public Administration](#)
- [Joint BA in Public Policy and Master of Public Policy](#)
- [Joint BA in Public Policy and Master of Urban Planning and Policy](#)
- [Joint BA in Public Policy and MS in Civic Analytics](#)

Minors

- [Minor in Civic Analytics](#)
- [Minor in Nonprofit Management](#)
- [Minor in Public Policy](#)