

## **Frequently Asked Questions about Valdosta State University's Master of Public Administration Online Degree Program**

**Q.)**

A.) General requirements for admission are:

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Undergraduate GPA 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- Submission of a resume
- Submission of a career goal statement
- Three letters of recommendation

**Q.)**

A.) Prospective applicants complete the same application for admission to Valdosta State University graduate school that all other students submit. The application process is completely online. The application may be downloaded directly from the graduate school website at [www.valdosta.edu/gradschool](http://www.valdosta.edu/gradschool) . If you have questions or concerns you may contact the graduate school by e-mail at [gradschool@valdosta.edu](mailto:gradschool@valdosta.edu) or by phoning toll-free at 1.800.618.1878, locally at 229.333.5694, or by writing to the Graduate School, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA 31698.

**Q.)**

A.) Students will be given further instructions once they have been admitted into the program. Course schedules and information about classes for the next semester may be obtained by going to [www.valdosta.edu/pa](http://www.valdosta.edu/pa) and following the links.

**Q.)**

A.) Texts and other required materials may be ordered online with a credit card by accessing the Valdosta State University homepage, [www.valdosta.edu](http://www.valdosta.edu)

**Q.)**

A.) Students who enroll in the program at the rate of nine semester hours per semester and successfully meet course requirements will be able to complete the requirements in four consecutive semesters. Students will be allowed to enroll at the beginning of any semester.

**Q.)**

A.) No. We restrict class size to about 25 students, but will run multiple sections when appropriate.

**Q.)**

A.) Computer/Internet Access- The program requires students to have access to a computer capable of downloading course materials, including streaming video.

B.) Computer skills- Basic word processing and spreadsheet skills are required. Ability to use the Internet is a must.

**Q.)**

A.) All required courses in the program are offered on a regular cycle. PADM 7300 (Foundation Seminar, required for all students during their first semester) and PADM 7900 (exit requirement, taken during the student's final semester) are offered each semester. Course schedules may be found at <https://www.valdosta.edu/pa/documents/mpa-course-matrix.pdf>

**Q.)**

A.) This will vary from student to student and from course to course. The amount of time per course should not exceed that required in our more traditional courses, however. Students taking three courses and working full-time find themselves pushed, but most also find it manageable. If you are concerned about this, you may want to start part-time.

**Q.)**

A.) There will be a regular schedule that must be met in terms of material completed by a given date, but there will not be a specific time you must be online. Some professors may request that you join a chat room at a given time, if you can do so.

**Q.)**

**Q.)**

A.) Yes. You may obtain information on financial aid by going to the VSU homepage,

much of a difference in the types of occupations between the Public Policy concentration and the Public Sector Management concentration. Public Policy is sometimes considered more of a “Think Tank “position.

A.) 15 weeks of courses and 1 week of testing to total 16 weeks

A.) 2.5 but meeting the minimum does not guarantee acceptance into the program. ?

A.) MPA – no, DPA – yes, all.

**Q.)**