Practicum: Where students can gain a solid foundation in public service and organizational leadership.

“... provided a solid foundation in public service and organizational leadership. I gained experience working with state and local government, collaborating within communities, and advanced my understanding of cultural responsibility. The program also helped me obtain an incredible internship with NASA.”

- Alexander Fonseca

The PUBA Alumni Network

Our extensive alumni network extends through Hawaii, the continental United States, and dozens of countries around the world, particularly the Asia-Pacific region. Below is a small sampling of where our alumni work.

Hawaii and the U.S. Government
- Hawaii State Legislature
- Hawaii State Senate
- Honolulu Police Department
- State of Hawaii, Department of Health
- Lieutenant Governor’s Office
- Federal Government - U.S. District Court
- Trade and Development
- United States Department of Treasury

The Nonprofit Sector
- Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations
- National Asian Women’s Health Organization
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Papa Ola Lokahi
- RCUH, Cancer Research Center
- Wai’alae Elementary Charter School Board

International
- Busan, S. Korea, Metropolitan City Office of Education
- Regional Economic Development Program- Angkor Wat, Cambodia
- Bank of Mongolia
- University of Ruhuna
- World Bank in Vietnam
- United Nations

Alex Alexander Fonseca, Master of Public Administration, Pictured at his practicum at NASA in Washington D.C.

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College of Social Sciences
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Saunders Hall 631  808.956.8260
pubadmin@hawaii.edu  www.puba.hawaii.edu

Find Us On:  

Information in this brochure, including cost, programs, policies, etc., is subject to change without notice. The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution.
What is the Public Administration Program at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa?

The Public Administration Program (PUBA) is a graduate program in the College of Social Sciences that offers students a comprehensive foundation in public administration that is designed to build leadership in public service in Hawai‘i, the mainland USA and the Asia-Pacific region. Since 1984, the program has been oriented by this question: “What do people need to know to be effective in their work?” With a focus on interdisciplinary learning and collaboration the program is designed to help students gain knowledge, practice effectively in a multicultural and global society, and learn skills and values that are important for public service leadership in the 21st century.

The program creates an environment in which many of the complex issues facing those with public responsibilities are addressed while also giving participants specific skills useful to their work in the public and nonprofit sectors. Students in the PUBA program come from a rich variety of backgrounds, enabling students to see issues from different perspectives. Courses emphasize active engagement and continuously apply theory to practice.

The MPA Program
The master’s degree consists of eight required courses:
• Introduction to Public Administration
• Leadership and Ethics
• Organizations: Theory and Change
• Public Personnel Management
• Effective Communication in the Public Sector
• Research Methods
• Policy Implementation and Analysis
• Public Budgeting

Two electives from topics such as:
• Diversity management
• Nonprofit management
• Reforming public organizations
• Intercultural communication
• Organizational communication
• Collaboration

There is also a 120-hour practicum requirement and a capstone, team project.

Certificate Programs
PUBA also offers a 15 credit, 1-year graduate certificate in public administration with tracks in either public leadership or nonprofit management. See www.puba.hawaii.edu/certificates for more information.

Flexible Schedules designed for working professionals
All PUBA courses are offered in the evenings. Students have the option to complete the program in 18 months, 2 years, or 3 years.

How to Apply
Admissions are in the fall only. See puba.hawaii.edu Application deadline is March 15

PUBA Faculty
Our faculty come from a variety of disciplines, providing students with the opportunity to learn different perspectives about important public issues.

• Jeff Ady, PhD (Communications)
• Susan Chandler, PhD (Social Policy)
• Chris Grandy, PhD (Economics)
• Morgen Johansen, PhD (Public Management)
• Taehee Kim, PhD (Public Administration)
• David Nixon, PhD (Political Science)
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