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

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

“...The Public Administration Program at UH Mānoa 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 practicum with NASA.”

- Alexander Fonesca
What is the Public Administration Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa?

The mission of the Public Administration Program is to equip those with public and community responsibilities in Hawaii, the Mainland, and the Asia-Pacific region with knowledge and skills to adapt to changing public service environments and to work collaboratively to solve problems.

The Program does this in a manner informed by the traditions, cultural sensitivity, and inclusiveness special to Hawaii, enabling our graduates to provide leadership and improve communities wherever they serve. Through teaching, research and service, the Program aims to give current and future public service professionals the knowledge and skills they need to be effective leaders in a diverse and globalizing world.

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
- Indigenous Governance
- 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)
- Lorinda Riley, SJD & JD (Indigenous Law)
- David Nixon, PhD (Political Science)

* The Practicum can be taken any semester or in the summer.
**The two electives can be taken any semester or in the summer

See website for more details about or Nonprofit and Public Administration Certificate Programs: puba.hawaii.edu