Rutgers SPAA’s Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA) is an accelerated, online cohort program for mid-career professionals working in the public or nonprofit sectors.

Designed for practicing professionals and managers with public, nonprofit, or government sector experience, the Executive Master of Public Administration (EMPA) program at Rutgers SPAA provides the cutting-edge knowledge and professional skills needed for successful executive-level leadership in government, the nonprofit sector, international organizations, and even the corporate world. Students become competent in leadership and management, the policy process, evidence-based decision-making, public service values, and interacting productively with a diverse workforce and society.

**EMPA Quick Facts**

- **Location**: 100% online coursework, with summer in-person, two-day residency
- **Program**: part-time
- **Format**: cohort model
- **Start Term**: fall
- **Courses**: 10
- **Credits**: 30
- **Priority Application Deadline**: July 1
  (Applications are still encouraged after July 1 and will be reviewed on a rolling basis.)

**Application Requirements**

To be considered for admission to the MPA program, applicants must hold a bachelor’s degree from a recognized institution of higher education and have 5+ years of relevant professional experience or 2+ years of relevant supervisory experience in the field of public service.

To apply to the MPA program, applicants must complete or submit the following:

- **Application** – all applications are completed online via Rutgers University Graduate Admissions ([http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu](http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu))
- **Resume or CV**
- **Application Fee** – ($70) payable to Rutgers University
- **Official Transcripts** – showing all undergraduate and graduate work from each post-secondary institution attended
- **Three Letters of Recommendation**
- **Personal Statement** – two to three pages (approximately 750 words) explaining "Why You are Pursuing an EMPA Degree"
- **TOEFL and IELTS Scores** – if applicable (English language proficiency is required if your undergraduate education was completed in a non-English speaking country)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

[http://spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/empa](http://spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/empa)

**CURRICULUM**

The Executive MPA program consists of 10 courses (30 credits) of online coursework that build public management and leadership skills for advancing your career in government and the nonprofit sector. Students accepted into the program receive 12 professional credits, reducing the total number of credits necessary to earn the MPA degree from 42 to 30 credits. Students join a cohort of people from diverse professional backgrounds who will complete all 10 courses together over a two-year period. An in-person residency at Rutgers University–Newark, held annually every summer, provides academic and networking opportunities.

**IN-PERSON RESIDENCY**

At the annual in-person residency, held over two days each summer, students participate in academic symposia, workshops, community-based events, and networking opportunities.

**CAPSTONE PROJECT**

The capstone course, with the option of completing either a capstone paper or a professional portfolio, serves as a culminating experience in the MPA program and provides students with an opportunity to integrate their learning from coursework with application to real-world issues and career ambitions.
EMPA Coursework

The Executive MPA program consists of 10 courses (30 credits) of online coursework.

REQUISITED COURSES

**Semester 1 (Fall):**
- Introduction to Public Administration (3)
- Managing Public Organizations (3)

**Semester 2 (Spring):**
- Technology and Public Administration (3)
- The Public Policy Process (3)

**Semester 3 (Summer):**
- Data Analysis for Decision-Making (3)
- In-person, two-day residency (no credit)

**Semester 4 (Fall):**
- Government Budgeting (3)
- Economics for Public Administration (3)

**Semester 5 (Spring):**
- Human Resources Management (3)
- Ethical Challenges in Public Affairs (3)

**Semester 6 (Summer):**
- Capstone Project (3)
- In-person, two-day residency (no credit)

Program Cost

The Executive MPA program costs less than $35,000 for in-state and out-of-state students.

Customized Cohorts

Executive MPA cohorts for State of NJ employees and/or specific departments can be formed and the program can be customized to an agency’s or department’s needs. For more information, please contact Aaron Gibbs, associate dean of student and academic services, at algibbs@rutgers.edu or 973-353-1351.

Rutgers SPAA: Where Service Meets Leadership

The School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA) at Rutgers University–Newark offers a full complement of degrees from undergraduate to PhD as well as graduate and non-credit certificates focused on particular issues of public and nonprofit sector management and policy implementation. Learn more about how SPAA motivates students to choose careers in public service and administration through our innovative and comprehensive degree programs at [http://spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/academics](http://spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/academics).

Rutgers SPAA is consistently ranked as a top school for public management and leadership by *U.S. News & World Report* and accredited by NASPAA – the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration.

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