School of Public Policy students are going places. Big places. Our graduates go on to work at government agencies, world-renowned nonprofits and Fortune 500 companies.

Whether you are a student pursuing your passion or an employer looking for the brightest new recruits, we’re here to help. Career Services and Alumni Relations provides professional development resources to students and alumni, helping them discover rewarding internships and build successful careers. Our mission is to complement coursework by teaching critical career skills, facilitating experiential learning and offering employment services. Additionally, we provide programs, workshops and events to help students and alumni develop and sustain meaningful professional networks.

Hugo Cantu ’20
President, School of Public Policy Alumni Board

“We are one of the few schools at the University that has a career services office solely dedicated to our undergraduates and graduate students. Students can meet with a career advisor and be sure they will be receiving valuable guidance. Admittedly, when I declared my major I still felt lost in my search for a career path. Career services helped guide me through internships, networking events and overall confidence in my ability to influence change.”
Career Development

Career Counseling Appointments and Walk-In Advising
Whether you are a freshman hoping to explore career options, a graduate student seeking opportunities, or an alum looking for the next big step, we suggest you visit us. Individual career counseling helps with a range of needs from clarifying career goals to implementing a sound internship strategy to practicing interview skills. Walk-in advising provides a quick way for you to receive targeted feedback on resumes and job search correspondence.

Maryland Mentor Program
This program matches you with alumni who share similar career interests. Mentors provide sound counsel and advice in finding employment or experiential learning opportunities. Mentors include local, state and federal government officials, directors of nonprofits and private sector representatives.

Experts-in-Residence Program
Capitalizing on the School of Public Policy’s proximity to the nation’s capital, this program sponsors weekly visits from experts in various policy fields. You can access these experts during one-on-one meetings and receive valuable career insights, resume suggestions and networking leads.

Professional Development Series
This series prepares you for life after graduation by providing a competitive edge when searching for internships and jobs. We offer workshops on topics that include resume and cover letter writing, job searching, networking and managing your online professional image.

Career Programs & Events

Career Treks
Career Treks brings you to organizations throughout the DC area to connect with highly skilled and motivated policy professionals. Site visits include presentations on the organization’s role in public policy, meeting professionals in the field and tours of the worksite.

Employer Information Sessions
Employers from across public, private and nonprofit sectors regularly visit the School of Public Policy to engage and recruit students like you. These sessions expose you to the many career fields and employment opportunities available.

Public Policy Career Panels
Policy professionals and alumni return to campus each semester to share professional experiences and provide insight into critical policy issues and trends. Panelists also provide guidance on preparing for internship and job searches in today’s markets as well as taking advantage of important academic and experiential learning opportunities.

Career Networking Nights
Career Networking Nights offer you the opportunity to network throughout Washington, DC and Maryland with alumni and employers from the public, private and nonprofit sectors. These events are tailored to your interests, promote the sharing of internship and full-time leads and allow you to receive expert assistance from like-minded policy professionals.
Leadership

Academic and Professional Groups
You may become affiliated with two career-related organizations at the School of Public Policy. Pi Alpha Alpha recognizes and promotes excellence in the study and practice of public affairs and administration. Kappa Omega Alpha is a premier public policy fraternity that aims to create leaders working together as agents of change. Both groups offer extensive professional development and networking opportunities.

Student Affinity Groups
We are proud to collaborate throughout the year with SPP’s excellent student groups, including Asian American Policy Union, Black Students in Public Policy, La Gente, Women in Public Policy and QTiPP. Together, we offer speed networking events and information sessions that target the specific needs of our diverse student body.

Presidential Management Fellows Program
The Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) program attracts public service-minded students to the federal government. Through a highly competitive process, PMF finalists receive an initial two-year appointment and eligibility for conversion to a permanent government position. We support you in the PMF selection process by providing information sessions and access to our PMF alumni network.

Job and Internship Resources

UMD Policy Jobs
Enjoy exclusive access to hundreds of policy-relevant internships, jobs and employer contacts through umdpolicyjobs.com. Updated daily, the site facilitates employer-student interaction and provides a key starting point for any policy-related internship or job search.

SPP Internship Program
As a current student, this program provides you financial support for unpaid internships in nonprofit, community and governmental organizations. You can spend up to one semester working part-time, or one summer working full-time, on projects that allow you to apply policy-relevant classroom skills to work situations. The SPP Internship Program is competitive and available year-round.

Career Connections Newsletter
Stay up to date on career events, exclusive policy opportunities and more.
Many students take advantage of the School’s proximity to the nation’s capital to experience multiple internships before graduation. Furthering those possibilities, the School provides financial support to many students pursuing unpaid nonprofit or public sector internships.
2023 Employers
Alexander Hamilton Society
American Enterprise Institute
Angerholzer Broz Consulting
AnLar
Applied Policy, LLC
Baltimore YouthWorks
Bond and Grace Co.
Booz Allen Hamilton
Brooke Consulting, LLC
Brookings Institution
CAIR Coalition
City of Baltimore (MD)
City of Boston (MA)
CityBridge Education
Coalition for Smarter Growth
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation
Davis Polk & Wardwell
Deloitte
Development Alternatives Incorporated
Eagle Hill Consulting
Echtralex Contemporary Lexicography
Feldesman Tucker Leifer Fidell, LLP
First 72+
Future of Privacy Forum
Guidehouse
Harris Jones & Malone, LLC
Harvard Law School
House Judiciary Committee
I Support the Girls
Insight Technology Solutions
Institute for Defense Analyses
Institute for Governmental Service and Research
Johns Hopkins School of Education
Maryland General Assembly
McKinsey & Company
NASDAQ
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Journal
National Low Income Housing Coalition
New America
New York University
Noblis ESI
Office of the Vice President of the Dominican Republic
Ohio State University
Orr Group
Pew Charitable Trusts
Prince George’s County (MD)
Protect Our Defenders
Sasakawa Peace Foundation
Second Sight Training Systems, LLC
Simeone & Miller, LLP
Springboard Collaborative
Teach for America
Town of Kensington (MD)
U.S. Army
U.S. Census Bureau
U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Department of Defense
U.S. Department of Education
U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Department of Labor
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Government Accountability Office
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Impact Investing Alliance
U.S. Marine Corps
U.S. National Reconnaissance Office
U.S. Public Health Service
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
Veeva Systems
Venable, LLP
World Learning

2023 Internship Sites
AARP
American Security Project
Bipartisan Policy Center
Calvert Impact Capital
Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Relations
Center for Strategic and International Studies
Century Foundation
Congressional Hunger Center
Council Fire
D.C. Public Schools
Deloitte
Earth Law Center
Equity Forward
2023 Graduates by Employment Sector

**Undergraduate Students**
- Federal Government (10%)
- State/Local Government (9%)
- Private Sector (40%)
- Nonprofit Sector (16%)
- Further Education (25%)

**Graduate Students**
- Federal Government (28%)
- State/Local Government (8%)
- Private Sector (19%)
- Nonprofit Sector (26%)
- Further Education (4%)
- International Organizations/Nations (8%)
- Academia (7%)

Federal Reserve Board
John King and Will Smith for Maryland
Loudoun County (VA)
LXR Group
Maryland General Assembly
McLarty Associates
Montgomery County (MD) Council
Mothership Strategies
National Academy of Public Administration
National Low Income Housing Coalition
Office of Congressman Hakeem Jeffries (NY-8)
Office of Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-8)
Office of Delegate Ariana Kelly (MD-16)
Office of Hans Riemer for County Executive (Montgomery County, MD)
Partnership for Public Service
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Prince George's County (MD) Government
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network Strong Future Maryland

U.S. Agency for International Development
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Government Accountability Office
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Indo-Pacific Command
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
United Way Worldwide
University of Maryland Civic Innovation Center
University of Maryland Do Good Institute
University of Maryland Nyumburu Cultural Center
Urban Institute
World Bank Group
World Resources Institute