



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

2024- 2025 Undergraduate Student Handbook

For more information, contact:

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This manual is designed to provide undergraduates in the University of Maryland School of Public Policy with the tools needed to be successful as students. It includes both general campus policies and information, as well as information specific to the School of Public Policy.

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Every community owes its existence and strength to the generations before them, around the world, who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy into making the history that led to this moment.

Truth and acknowledgement are critical in building mutual respect and connections across all barriers of heritage and difference.

So, we acknowledge the truth that is often buried: We are on the ancestral lands of the Piscataway People, who are the ancestral stewards of this sacred land. It is their historical responsibility to advocate for the four-legged, the winged, those that crawl and those that swim. They remind us that clean air and pristine waterways are essential to all life.

This Land Acknowledgement is a vocal reminder for each of us as two-leggeds to ensure our physical environment is in better condition than what we inherited, for the health and prosperity of future generations.

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ENSLAVEMENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, at the University of Maryland, recognize and honor the exploited labor of forcefully enslaved people upon which the foundations of the United States and our institution were built.

Enslaved people of African descent farmed, paved, maintained, and developed the land on which our university stands today. Through intergenerational resistance, leadership and a steadfast pursuit of freedom and justice, their descendants fought and continue to fight for a societal transformation in defiance of the profound injustices of the transatlantic trade, chattel slavery, convict leasing, Jim Crow laws, dehumanization and the caste system that permeates our existence. They desegregated and integrated our classrooms and now lead our university and Maryland Terps forward to achieving a better world.

We are forever indebted to the unwilling generational sacrifices and stolen labor of the enslaved Africans and their descendants. Together, we will strive to atone, heal and uplift the unbreakable spirit and beauty of Black Americans.

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SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

About the School of Public Policy

Formerly known as the Maryland School of Public Affairs, the School of Public Policy (SPP) has evolved significantly since it opened in 1982. What began with seven faculty and 12 students, has grown to more than 100 faculty and staff and over 1,000 students, including those in our undergraduate, graduate, PhD, minor, and certificate programs. With expanding academic programs, a growing portfolio of research, and increasing partnerships with government, nonprofit and private organizations, the School embodies the ideals of public policy as a means of bringing people together for constructive dialogue.

Thurgood Marshall Hall

The new School of Public Policy building bears the name of civil rights lawyer and former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, honoring his role in breaking down barriers for Black and African American students, including the University of Maryland's desegregation.

Public Policy Major

Launched in Spring 2017, the Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy is a hands-on, interdisciplinary program that gives you the analytical and decision-making skills to make a positive difference. Focused on problems and solutions rather than theories or institutions, the public policy major prepares you to be an effective champion of real change. Whether you are passionate about reducing poverty and inequality, tackling climate change, reforming immigration or any issue that inspires you, the public policy major is the foundation you need to make an impact.

Community Expectations

Our School has recognized diversity, equity and inclusion as core values in its recently adopted Strategic Plan. In order to give full effect to these values in practice, this document articulates the expectations of School administrators, faculty in all categories (including tenured and tenure track, professional track, and instructional) and staff (SPP

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community members) as reflected in their interactions with students, with each other in collegial and scholarly pursuits, and with the broader university community.

The document builds on and amplifies existing University policies and codes of conduct (i.e. Expectations and Responsibilities for Faculty Members) that are already applicable to faculty and staff. This document will be reviewed and revised annually to reflect feedback from students, faculty, staff and administrators, so that it remains relevant and current.

These expectations and principles are aimed at fostering a culture of reciprocity, integrity, openness and mutual trust and respect – behaviors that are vital for the School's and University's mission. If you encounter behavior that is inconsistent with these principles and feel that it has been improperly overlooked, please bring the issue to the instructor, an advisor, or School of Public Policy administrator or to the SPP Equity Officer at sppequity@umd.edu.

Listed below are the Key Principles. You can find the whole document [here](#).

1. Promote and Preserve Academic Freedom
2. Promote a Culture of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity
3. Be Fair and Respectful to Others
4. Prevent and Address Sexual Misconduct
5. Manage Responsibly
6. Promote Community Health and Well-Being

DEIB Goals

The UMD School of Public Policy is committed to fostering an inclusive environment where our diverse community members are respected and our unique experiences and perspectives are welcome and celebrated. We have developed a set of community expectations as a set of guidelines that we believe should inform how our community members at SPP will engage one another.

Should a question or concern about adherence to the community expectations arise among students, faculty or staff, please refer to the charts below as a resource for contacts that can offer support. (links below)

- [**STUDENT COMMUNITY RESOURCES/CONTACT FLOWCHART**](#)
- [**FACULTY COMMUNITY RESOURCES/CONTACT FLOWCHART**](#)

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- **STAFF COMMUNITY RESOURCES/CONTACT FLOWCHART**

Additionally, we identified the following nine antiracist actions specifically to signify the almost nine minutes that resulted in the horrific murder of George Floyd. These same nine minutes catapulted our nation into a long overdue racial reckoning and momentum building, in our streets and institutions across the nation. You can find additional information [here](#).

1. Hold faculty accountable who compromise the safety and learning of students
2. Increase recruitment, promotion and retention efforts directed toward faculty of color, particularly Black faculty.
3. Recruit more students of color; and increase support and resources for current students of color, student affinity groups especially Black students.
4. Provide ongoing antiracism and inclusion training for faculty, staff and senior leadership.
5. Require and develop more course offerings focused on racism/antiracism and social policy.
6. Create more inclusive classrooms and course content, especially prioritizing more antiracism content across courses.
7. Develop and strengthen relationships with grassroots racial justice organizations.
8. Develop more antiracist public policy research and resources.
9. Use SPP's platform to denounce anti-Black racism and commit to being a more antiracist school.

SECTION 2: ACADEMIC PLANNING AND POLICIES

Declaring an SPP Major/Minor

After exploring the Public Policy Major, students who are ready to declare can do so by initiating a change/add of major form in TerpEngage ([here](#)) and then by scheduling an appointment with one of our advisors. [Link to schedule advising appointment](#). We also encourage students to explore and declare our minors in (1) Education Policy, Equity, & Justice; (2) Nonprofit Leadership & Social Innovation; (3) Public Leadership; (4) Science, Technology, Ethics, & Policy; and/or (5) Sustainability.

Mandatory Advising

Advising helps you maximize your undergraduate experience through a journey of exploration that leads to transformation and informed decision-making about academic

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and extracurricular opportunities. In the School of Public Policy, advising is mandatory every semester. You are required to schedule at least one advising appointment per semester with your assigned academic advisor.

Notification of registration times will be e-mailed by the Office of the Registrar. It is your responsibility to find your specific “Appointment & Registration Status” (registration appointment time and date - when you can register) by logging on to Testudo. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** It is also your responsibility to schedule your mandatory advising meeting **BEFORE** your registration appointment time and date. Do not wait until the last minute to schedule your advising meeting.

Mandatory Advising begins in the 4th-5th week of each semester and continues until all students are registered. Students are encouraged to hold their mandatory advising meeting 1-2 weeks before their registration is scheduled to open (“registration appointment”).

Mandatory Advising appointments are scheduled to last 20-30 minutes. This is to allow enough time for discovery, designing, and implementing through intentional conversation. You are encouraged to drive the conversation by bringing a list of topics or issues you would like to discuss. Please schedule an appointment by selecting your assigned PLCY Major Advisor in [TerpEngage](#).

Mandatory Advising to remove your Registration Block CANNOT be satisfied during drop-in hours.

Academic Plan

Undergraduate students in the School of Public Policy are encouraged to develop an academic plan to map out all courses needed to graduate within a Public Policy major. Our undergraduate academic advising team is available to work with students throughout this process. Sample four-year and two-year plans are available [here](#). These materials may be downloaded to assist both current and prospective students in planning their education and monitoring their progress to a degree.

This information is to be used as an advising tool. The plan will require periodic modification as a result of the semester in which a student enters the program, changes in course sequence or offering times, availability of courses, satisfactory progress, etc. No guarantee is offered or implied by the creation and use of a four-year or two-year

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graduation plan. Development of your individual plan and all changes thereafter should be made in consultation with your assigned academic advisor. If you have questions, consult with your academic advisor.

Students requesting policy-level changes to their academic plan should consult their academic advisor and the [SPP Exception to Policy information](#).

Curriculum

The public policy major curriculum consists of two components - a required set of courses that provides a conceptual, analytical and practical foundation in public policy, and an elective set of courses (a pre-designed focus area, a self-designed focus area, or a general set of policy electives) that allow a deeper exploration of particular topics. You must complete 120 total credits (58 credits for the public policy major and your general education requirements) to graduate with a degree in public policy. See more information about the curriculum [here](#).

Benchmarks

Students are expected to demonstrate continuing progress in their major by successfully completing the following courses in the specified timeframes. These four Benchmark courses are part of the required courses for the Public Policy Major. Should a student's individual situation warrant a different path, they can work with their advisor to plan their progress.

REQUIREMENT 1 - *Must be completed by the end of **two semesters** into the major*

- **PLCY100** - Foundations of Public Policy
- **HIST201** - Interpreting American History: From 1865 to the Present

REQUIREMENT 2 - *Must be completed by the end of **four semesters** into the major*

- **PLCY101** - Great Thinkers on Public Policy
- **STAT100** - Elementary Statistics and Probability or higher (STAT100 equivalent accepted)

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Experiential Learning Requirement (PLCY309 requirement)

The Public Policy major includes an experiential learning requirement to allow students to explore public policy outside of a traditional classroom. Students can fulfill this requirement by earning at least 3 credits through one of the following options below.

- [Internship Info Sheet](#)
- [Research Info Sheet](#)
- [Study Abroad Website Link](#) - Contact your advisor for more information.

These experiential learning opportunities must significantly engage in Public Policy or Public Administration to be approved.

Graduation and Commencement

Students must apply for graduation by the end of schedule adjustment for the semester in which they plan to earn their degree. Students can apply for graduation on Testudo.

Undergraduate and graduate students who are close to completing their degree requirements may be permitted by their college, at the request of the student, to participate in spring departmental, college, and/or campus commencement activities if they can demonstrate that they intend to complete all degree requirements before the first day of classes in the next fall semester. SPP students who plan to graduate in the summer but wish to walk in the Spring must demonstrate their summer registration plan to their advisor.

Participation in commencement activities (including the main commencement ceremony) does not imply degree completion or graduation, nor official degree completion in that particular spring semester. All degree requirements must be completed before a degree and diploma can be awarded. In the interest of having the printed UMD main commencement program be as accurate as possible, students' names will be included in this printed program only if they are expected to graduate in the spring. Student names will be printed in the SPP program provided student information is received by the deadline.

Public Policy Major Electives /Focus Areas

In addition to the required core courses for the Public Policy major, Policy majors must take four policy elective courses. Students have two options when it comes to selecting electives: 1) They can choose to declare a focus area, working with an advisor to

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select/create a focus area (listed below), or (2) they can choose general policy electives from either within or outside the School of Public Policy. Students must complete at least one Major Elective course with a PLCY course number (ex: PLCY213).

- **General Policy (no focus area)**
- **Education Policy, Equity, and Justice**
- **Gender and Racial Justice**
- **Global Action and Problem Solving**
- **International Security Policy**
- **Nonprofit Leadership and Social Innovation**
- **Public Leadership**
- **Science, Technology, Ethics, and Policy**
- **Sustainability Studies**
- **Create Your Own Focus Area**

Find more information [here](#) (open “Electives” bar).

General Education Requirements

The foundation of undergraduate education at the University is its general education program, with all students taking a series of courses within specially designed categories. The general education program provides you with fundamental skills, broad knowledge, and approaches to intellectual inquiry that will benefit you regardless of your area of study. You can learn more about UMD’s GenEd program [here](#).

Fundamental Studies

Fundamental Studies courses ensure that you have the basic skills in written and oral communication, in mathematical analysis and in critical thinking that are important to your success across the curriculum and in your career.

Distributive Studies

Distributive Studies courses expose you to a variety of disciplines even as you concentrate in your chosen field. They offer insights into the methods of different disciplines, the kinds of questions disciplines ask, and their standards for judging answers.

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Big Question

Big Question courses speak to important issues that spark the imagination, demand intellect, and inspire innovation. They challenge you to wrestle with big questions, and examine the ways that different disciplines address them.

Diversity

Diversity courses investigate the complexities of human difference and commonality, emphasizing the promises and problems of plural societies and the challenges that must be addressed to achieve just, equitable, and productive societies.

Bachelor's/Master of Public Policy (Plus 1 Program)

Jumpstart your career in public policy by gaining both an understanding of the policy world and the professional tools to make a difference!

The dual bachelor's with a Master of Public Policy allows you to earn both degrees in less time and is more cost-effective than if you pursued them independently. Benefit from the in-depth and multi-lens understanding of society and the policy world that is explored in our bachelor's program, and gain the analytical and professional tools in our master's program that you need to launch a career solving pressing policy challenges. Take advantage of our location in the Washington, D.C. region to engage directly in local, national and international policymaking.

Highlights

- Earn a bachelor's and master's degree in as few as five years and at lower cost by double-counting up to 18 pre-approved credits toward both degrees
- Combine the multidisciplinary breadth of your undergraduate program with the specialized skills of a master's degree to be an effective and capable policy professional
- Access the internship, event and networking opportunities of the Washington, D.C. region and go beyond the classroom into the heart of policymaking

Before Applying

- All students must schedule a meeting with their respective undergraduate Academic Advisor prior to discuss your program course of study before applying.

Required Qualifications

- Demonstrate a strong commitment to public service

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- Have declared a major in Public Policy or an approved BSOS major
- Shown academic success in core courses to respective major of Public Policy or BSOS
- Students are first eligible to apply when they are within two months of completing at least 60 credits with a cumulative 3.5 GPA, you may apply later

Students are required to take ECON 200 AND STAT 100 with a grade of C or better or equivalent before registering for graduate-level PLCY courses

Transfer Credit as a Current UMD Student (Permission to Enroll at Other Institutions)

To request permission to take courses at another institution, students should do the following:

- Discuss potential transfer course(s) with your advisor.
- Review transfer course equivalencies in the [Transfer Credit Services Database](#).
- Complete the [Permission to Enroll Form](#). If you have any issues with how to use the form [see this document](#) for help.
- Wait for email notification of the decision on your request BEFORE enrolling at the other institution.

SECTION 3: EMBEDDED RESOURCES

Career Services and Alumni Relations

[Career Services and Alumni Relations](#) (CSAR) provides professional development resources to students and alumni, helping them discover rewarding internships and build successful careers. Their mission is to complement coursework by teaching critical career skills, facilitating experiential learning and offering employment services. Additionally, they provide programs, workshops and events to help students and alumni develop and sustain meaningful professional networks. They also offer individual (1:1) career counseling appointments.

It is recommended that students begin ongoing career counseling early and consistently during the course of their college career. CSAR also holds multiple events a week to help students find jobs, work on their cover letters or resumes, speak to employers, and more. These events can be found [here](#).

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Embedded Counselor

To increase accessibility of mental health services to SPP students, the Counseling Center has provided an **Embedded Counselor for the School of Public Policy** located on site. Our Embedded Counselor, **Evan Klein, LCPC**, works specifically with the School of Public Policy, tailoring services and programs to the unique needs of SPP students.

Evan provides services to SPP on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and the 2nd and 4th Fridays each month. Services include:

- Mental health appointments for SPP students
- Outreach programming tailored to the needs of the School of Public Policy
- Consultation to SPP faculty and staff to help in supporting student mental health

To schedule a clinical appointment with Evan, use the **online scheduling system** or **email Evan**. To request an outreach program from Evan, send him an email or submit a Counseling Center **outreach request**. More information about SPP Embedded Counselor services and procedures is available **here**.

In addition to services provided by the SPP Embedded Counselor, the Counseling Center offers a wide range of mental health services available in the Shoemaker Building. Services include initial assessments, group counseling, short-term individual counseling, evidence-based workshops, the Wellness Series drop-in skills sessions, referral services, and more.

The Counseling Center provides urgent services to students exclusively in the Shoemaker Building during business hours. Urgent services are available by phone at (301) 314-7651 outside of business hours. Find more information about the Counseling Center **here**.

SECTION 4: STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

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Student organizations are an integral part of the SPP community – they recruit policymakers and scholars to speak at the school, provide a forum for students to discuss shared policy interests, raise money for deserving charities, promote international perspectives and more. Both graduate and undergraduate students are invited to participate in student organizations!

Undergraduate Student Ambassadors

This opportunity allows you to become more involved in policy life within the School and around campus while earning one (1) elective credit! The course will meet approximately 1-3 times a semester for one hour (we will plan around the cohort's fall schedule), and students are expected to complete assignments/attend recruitment events outside of class. This opportunity provides excellent leadership, public speaking, social media, and mentoring experience, as well as networking opportunities with faculty, staff, alumni, university administrators, and prospective students. While fun and meaningful for your resume, this experience is a serious time commitment that we ask you to weigh prior to your application.

Questions? Email Beatrice DeBelen bdebelen@umd.edu.

Asian American Policy Union (AAPU)

The Asian American Policy Union is a group aiming to provide a space for all APIDA and Middle Eastern Students at the School of Public Policy. AAPU aims to engage our Asian students' identities and cultures with political activism, awareness, and consciousness. Through collaborating with the wider campus community, our organization hopes to contribute to the larger racial and social justice movement by uplifting liberation struggles globally, nationally, and locally.

Find us on: [Instagram](#)

Black Students in Public Policy

Black Students in Public Policy (BSIPP) was established in 2017 for the express purpose of creating a stronger sense of community among Black students at the School. BSIPP provides a safe space for Black students and other students of marginalized identities in both the graduate school (masters and PhD students) and

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undergraduate public policy major. BSIPP also exists to serve our community through volunteering, educational programs, and advocacy throughout campus.

Contact: UMDBSIPP@gmail.com

Find us on: [Facebook](#)

Policy Student Government Association (PSGA)

The Policy Student Government Association (PSGA) is a team of undergraduate and graduate students who represent the needs and interests of all registered students before the administration and faculty. PSGA works to build a community among policy school students through regular social gatherings, service opportunities and networking socials.

Visit: [Policy Student Government Association \(PSGA\)](#)

Sustainability, Environment, and Energy Council (SEEC)

The Sustainability, Environment, and Energy Council (SEEC) is a student-led organization open to all students within the School of Public Policy who are interested in incorporating sustainability into their policy careers. SEEC engages in projects and activities that enhance environmental well-being, facilitates network-building through communication and social engagements, and provides scholarly opportunities to improve professional development and representation at the School. In addition, the Council makes an effort to develop a strong sense of community for sustainably-minded students with a variety of social events. Some examples of past SEEC events include: fireside chats with university faculty, a sustainability masterclass, documentary nights, happy hours and networking nights, and volunteering excursions.

Contact: umdseec3@gmail.com

Find us on: [Facebook](#)

International Policy Council

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The International Policy Council (IPC) is a student organization that works to enhance the academic, professional and social experience of ISEP and IDEV students at the School. The IPC is a forum for students to discuss relevant issues and acts as a liaison with the School's faculty and administration. It organizes social, networking, professional development, and educational opportunities for the SPP community and sends a bi-weekly newsletter of upcoming events and international news. The ICP seeks to foster a stronger sense of community between ISEP and IDEV students, alumni, and faculty.

Contact: ipcouncilumd@gmail.com

Social, Health, Education Policy Student Council

Social, Health & Education Policy Council (SHEP) is a student organization open to both graduate and undergraduate students within the School of Public Policy. The purpose of the Social Policy Council is to engage students, regardless of specialization, in social, health, and education policy. Social Policy Council provides a forum for students to discuss current social policy issues, relevant social policy research, and also works with faculty and staff to promote social policy at UMD. We aim to work with community organizations both through volunteer opportunities and professional development.

Contact: social-policy@umd.edu

Find us on: [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

La Gente

La Gente in Public Policy is a student-led organization aimed at building community, creating connections, and empowering students who identify as Latin/a/o/é/x. Undergraduate and graduate (master's and PhD) students and alumni, including those not in SPP, are welcome! La Gente will host networking, professional development, and guest speaker events; community building activities and discussions to foster unity. We will also include an international lens in recognition of the diversity within our community. If you are passionate about advocating and developing policy solutions for the issues that face Latin/a/o/é/x in the diaspora – join La Gente.

Contact: lagentemd@gmail.com

Find us on: [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

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Kappa Omega Alpha (KOA)

Kappa Omega Alpha (KOA) is the premier public policy professional fraternity at the University of Maryland. The UMD KOA chapter was established in 2018 by Jacqueline Ford '20. KOA is open to anyone, regardless of year, major or background. KOA members are public leadership scholars, world travelers, business minors, first-semester freshmen, change the world consultants, community service volunteers, journalism majors, state senate campaign interns and everything in between.

Contact: koa.umd@gmail.com

Find us on: [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Website](#) | [YouTube](#)

Pi Alpha Alpha

The National Council of Pi Alpha Alpha approved the establishment of a Pi Alpha Alpha Chapter at the School in October 1999. Pi Alpha Alpha is the national honor society formed to recognize and promote excellence in the study and practice of public affairs and administration. PAA is dedicated to the following:

- Encouraging and recognizing outstanding scholarship and accomplishment in public policy, public affairs, and administration.
- Promoting the advancement of education and practice in the art and science of public affairs and administration.
- Fostering integrity, professionalism, and creative performance in the conduct of governmental and related public service activities.

PAA membership recognizes those students with the highest performance levels in educational programs preparing them for public service careers. Eligibility guidelines are as follows:

- **Undergraduate students:** Completed 15 semester hours of coursework required for the public policy, public affairs or public administration major or its equivalent; maintained an average grade of 3.7 (A GPA of 3.67 or above can be rounded up to qualify) in all courses included in the public policy major and at least a 3.0 in all other course work; are a junior or senior
- **Master's students:** 3.7 GPA or higher and the completion of at least 50% of the required degree coursework (minimum of 18 semester hours).

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- **Doctoral students:** Satisfaction of the requirements for Masters Degree membership or completion of all the requirements for the Master's Degree or its equivalent.
- **Alumni:** Satisfaction of the requirements for student membership

Student members automatically become PAA alumni members upon graduation. Lifetime individual membership in PAA requires a \$50.00 national initiation fee that entitles each inductee to an engraved certificate and lapel pin.

Students or alumni interested in becoming a member of PAA should contact Bryan Kempton at bkempton@umd.edu.

Women in Public Policy

The Women in Public Policy (WiPP) was established in 2002 to promote women's leadership in policy and increase awareness about issues affecting women and girls around the globe. The organization provides leadership, networking, professional development, education and service opportunities to the SPP community. WiPP is looking for students who are passionate about and interested in advocating, volunteering and developing policy solutions for issues affecting women and girls.

UMD-Wide Student Groups

In addition to the SPP Student Organizations, UMD has over 800+ student organizations to get involved in. Every student organization on campus can be found on [TerpLink](#).

SECTION 5: FELLOWSHIPS

Thurgood Marshall Research Fellowship

The Institute for Public Leadership at the University of Maryland School of Public Policy has created a prestigious fellowship program to honor the memory and impact of Maryland native and Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. The Thurgood Marshall Research Fellows Program seeks undergraduate and graduate students interested in conducting research focused on racial and/or social equity as it broadly applies to public leadership to be a part of the cohort. At the School of Public Policy, our motto is

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“Change the World. It’s our policy.” This aligns powerfully with the words of Thurgood Marshall: “The process of democracy is one of change. Our laws are not frozen into immutable form, they are constantly in the process of revision in response to the needs of a changing society.”

Fellows will receive a \$7,500 stipend, should have at least two semesters remaining at the university, and are expected to commit up to 10 hours per week during the semester while working along with a faculty supervisor. Endeavor to find a faculty supervisor on your own, though we will work with you to find a research mentor. Additionally, fellows should plan on attending professional development meetings (no more than three per semester) and events with special guests of the Institute for Public Leadership. Research experience is not required.

The Karabelle Pizzigati Initiative in Advocacy for Children, Youth and Families

The Karabelle Pizzigati Initiative in Advocacy for Children, Youth and Families builds a pipeline of informed, effective advocates to ensure all children are healthy, safe, learning and joyful.

The late Karabelle Pizzigati spent her career striving to change that reality by empowering champions for children with the policy skills to make a lasting impact. In her name, the Karabelle Pizzigati Initiative Fellowship inspires the best and brightest students to pursue careers in children's advocacy. Through this experience, students gain experience and insight into the field by working in organizations who make a real difference in the lives of children.

Students are empowered to use their voice as a powerful force for change, now and into the future. Throughout the fellowship, students learn from recognized experts in a 10-week paid internship. In addition to the internship, students will be coached and mentored, preparing them to enter a career in children's advocacy. We plan to honor Ms. Karabelle Pizzigati's legacy by increasing the pool of diverse, visionary leaders with the confidence and competence to lead and sustain major systems reform for kids.

The School of Public Policy and the School of Public Health partner annually to name students as Karabelle Pizzigati fellows. These students have a commitment to a career in children's advocacy. In addition to required coursework, fellows will participate in paid

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internships. Fellows will work closely with the program director to identify and prepare for an internship opportunity in the children's advocacy field.

Rawlings Undergraduate Leadership Fellows

The Rawlings Undergraduate Leadership Fellows Program honors the legacy of Howard Peters "Pete" Rawlings, who was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates representing the 40th district for more than two decades. A tireless advocate for those often unheard and underrepresented, the Rawlings Program provides you the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of Delegate Rawlings and develop as a champion for those marginalized in leadership and decision-making processes.

Working with faculty, alumni and local leaders, Rawlings Fellows will develop skills and resources needed to take on leadership roles during the program and beyond in fellows' future careers. Fellows will also grow to understand the importance of cultural pluralism and advocacy for voices too often unheard or underrepresented. The program offers opportunities for mentorship, professional development events, potential engagements with local and state leaders and hands-on experiences working in the community. These program components help Rawlings Fellows realize their commitment to public service and further develop critical leadership skills.

The Rawlings Program is a year-long experience, starting in the fall semester with an inaugural team-building challenge course at the University's Outdoor Recreation Center. Specialized activities and experiences throughout the year include:

- Completion of a leadership development seminar in the fall titled PLCY388N: Advancing Justice through Leadership and Social Change
- Mentoring relationships with elected officials, state and local government leaders, and community advocates through internships
- Access to renowned leadership scholars and policy faculty at the University of Maryland and the wider Washington, DC metropolitan area
- Site visits to public and nonprofit entities
- Development of a Community Action Project (CAP) that benefits an underserved community in an area surrounding College Park, Maryland
- Public service and professional development opportunities
- Direct professional development support from program staff and the opportunity to secure a political or nonprofit internship
- Participation in courses and events designed to promote a greater understanding of leadership in public life

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- A certificate of completion

The Rosalie Reilly Gubernatorial Fellowship

Rosalie Reilly was one of Maryland's most extraordinary and exemplary public servants who was a role model for young women entering politics and was a champion for educating young leaders as they prepared to enter public life. This fellowship was created to honor the memory of Ms. Reilly by enabling students to carry on her legacy of public service and leadership.

Eligible candidates must:

- be available to serve at least 135 fellowship hours while enrolled at the University
- have an interest in public service, government involvement, or political leadership
- be an undergraduate or graduate student, with at least two full semesters of study remaining
- have a 3.0 GPA or higher

The service work you do for the fellowship will be up to you, subject to department approval. Past recipients have often fulfilled their fellowship service requirement through an internship with a non-profit or in government. You may also opt to fulfill this requirement through an independent, civically oriented service project of your own design. You do not need to have your fellowship service commitment settled in order to apply for and be awarded the fellowship, however, upon notification of the award, you will have one week to sign and return the Fellowship contract.

Recipients of the Rosalie Reilly Gubernatorial Fellowship agree to the following terms, conditions, and expectations:

- 135 fellowship hours completed within one year of receiving notification of the award
- Regular meetings and communication with Dr. Jennifer Littlefield, School of Public Policy, to discuss project completion/status updates
- Project proposal (1 page) due 30 days after signed contract
- Timeline of project (1 page) due 30 days after signed contract
- A 4- to 5-page synopsis of project (directive questions will be provided in advance) due at project conclusion

SECTION 6: SCHOLARSHIPS AND INTERNSHIP STIPENDS

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Opportunities for scholarship provide not just funding for your education, but the chance to be part of a legacy. The School of Public Policy's prestigious scholarship awards, generously endowed by members of our community committed to helping finance education, are awarded to undergraduate and graduate students each year. To apply for scholarships, please review the details below for available awards. You can find the scholarship application [here](#).

SPP Internship Program

The SPP Internship Program provides current students with financial support for unpaid internships in nonprofit, community and government organizations. Students spend up to one semester working part-time, or one summer working full-time, on projects that allow them to apply policy-relevant classrooms in the workplace. The SPP Internship Program is competitive and offered year-round.

To apply, download the application [here](#) and submit it via email to Bryan Kempton at bkempton@umd.edu. Incomplete applications will not be accepted, and the internship offer must be officially "in hand." Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For best consideration, submit your completed application prior to the following dates each year:

Fall Semester Internships: August 15

Spring Semester Internships: December 15

Summer Internships: April 15

Typically, funding decisions are made within one month of the best consideration date. If you have any questions, reach out to bkempton@umd.edu.

SPP Internship Program Fund in Honor of David Reznick

The David Reznick Foundation facilitates valuable experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate and graduate public policy students interested in housing, community development, and related issues by generously contributing to the SPP Student Internship Program. Eligible students can receive internship stipends of up to \$2,500.

David Reznick graduated from the University of Maryland in 1959 with a degree in accounting, and founded the 14th-largest accounting firm in the United States. He is a legend in the affordable housing industry, dedicating his life to improving accessibility to affordable housing and academic opportunity. The David Reznick Foundation works to carry on that legacy and further the vision that David was so dedicated to achieving. Learn more about the David Reznick Foundation.

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Deadlines and Process: Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the calendar year. Awards are dependent on available funds. Only applications that convey an interest in housing policy, community development and related policy issues will be considered for this award.

Senator John A. Cade Public Leadership Scholarship

Senator John A. Cade was one of Maryland's most extraordinary and exemplary public servants. As a member of the Maryland Senate from 1975-1996, his dedication to government, public service and education helped enhance the lives of his constituents.

Eligible candidates must:

- be a current Maryland resident
- be a current undergraduate student with at least one semester remaining
- have a 3.0 GPA or higher
- have an interest in public service, government involvement, or political leadership.

James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership Endowment

The James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership was founded to honor the legacy of celebrated historian and political scientist James MacGregor Burns, and was built on his principled belief that leadership resides within every individual.

Established in 1982 at the University of Maryland, the James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership Endowment was the country's first academic program to support emerging leaders seeking elective office. Awards will be made to support outstanding leaders in the School of Public Policy.

SECTION 7: CENTERS, INSTITUTES, AND RESEARCH

As a community of researchers and practitioners, we are actively engaged in the policy debates and discussions that matter today. Our faculty are publishing pioneering work that sheds light on new and overlooked issues, and leading a diverse range of initiatives and projects that integrate research and practice to have real impact on policy making

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and harness the strengths and resources of a top-tier public research university to new challenges. Our centers and institutes are a hub of activity, bringing together faculty, staff and students to explore new ways of thinking about and solving problems. Cutting across all of the School's teaching, research and service activities, the strategic focus areas bring together the many streams of our work to ensure our areas of greatest strength have the greatest impact.

For more information about completing undergraduate research please review the [**PLCY399R Research Course Information Sheet**](#).

For more information on and support in finding research opportunities, see the [**Office of Undergraduate Research's Student Support Web Page**](#).

Center for Global Sustainability

The Center for Global Sustainability at the University of Maryland is an action-oriented climate research center. In a world with rapidly changing politics, technology, and emerging opportunities, we develop and apply diverse research methodologies to illuminate pathways to success in realizing higher ambition trajectories toward global climate, energy, and sustainability goals. Through this work, CGS seeks to expand the ways that governments, communities, and people envision and implement possibilities for ambitious climate action. CGS supports a team of roughly 60 people. We have large and active programs that link national, international, and subnational policy engagement in diverse geographical contexts with research programs that draw from modeling, econometric and empirical methods, mixed methods, and qualitative approaches. Integrating these research elements with intentional policy engagement enables CGS to develop and inform strategies to achieve rapid, clean, just, and affordable energy and economic transitions while also achieving climate goals. CGS has major programs in the United States, China, Indonesia, India, and Brazil, and others; it contributes to advancing understanding of integrating national with subnational action, including across the entire United States and the State of Maryland. CGS is committed to expanding the field through research training, mentoring, teaching, and early career programs.

Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland

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The Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland (CISSM) conducts research, informs policy debates, and helps current and future leaders find creative solutions to complex global challenges.

Three cross-cutting themes connect faculty, researchers, and students working on CISSM's research agenda:

1. Reducing risks from dual-use technologies
2. Enhancing human security
3. Improving multi-stakeholder governance

Center for Governance of Technology and Systems

GoTech focuses on building an expansive community of educators, researchers, private practitioners, and policy makers to:

- Explore the development, governance, and sustainment of complex critical infrastructure technologies & networks
- Examine governance challenges tied to several technologies that are shaping the 21st century
- Help advance holistic approaches to governance through effective engagement between the public and private sector
- Develop interdisciplinary educational programs.

Civic Innovation Center

The Civic Innovation Center at the School of Public Policy was launched in the aftermath of the most consequential election in generations, with the commitment to tackle our democracy's big challenges but also to sustain the incredible energy of the greatest voter turnout in a century.

The Civic Innovation Center's goals are to:

- Examine and help to strengthen the foundations of civic health on the University of Maryland campus and the greater Prince George's County community.

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- Contribute our voice and our resources to important debates about civic education, civic engagement, and needed democratic reforms in the state of Maryland, in partnership with our BIG10 colleagues, and in the nation's capital
- Work to build the connective tissue that connects students, scholars and practitioners across institutional, geographic and ideological divides.

Do Good Institute

The Do Good Institute inspires and equips Terps to apply their passions and ideas to make a positive impact, now, by offering hands-on experiences, funding opportunities, engaging curriculum, and effective programs that prepare Terps with the skills, experiences and resources to Do Good throughout their lives.

Institute for Public Leadership

The Institute for Public Leadership's mission is rooted in an ardent commitment to advance the practice and study of public leadership in ways that resonate with the diverse tapestry of our society and the crucial needs that our local and global communities face.

There are five key areas that will guide their work into the future:

1. Conducting Research for Impact
2. Enhancing Excellence in Teaching
3. Cultivating Robust Experiential Learning Opportunities
4. Empowering Underrepresented Voices
5. Building an Accomplished Community of Mentors

SECTION 8: KEY UMD RESOURCES

- [UMD Policies](#)
- [Grades and GPA](#)
- [Course Repeat Policy](#)
- [Transfer Credit](#)
- [Registration](#)
- [Prior Learning Credit](#)
- [Degree Information](#)
- [Academic Records and Regulations](#)

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- [Academic Integrity and Student Conduct Codes](#)
- [Campus-Wide Student Organizations](#)
- [Testudo](#)
- [Arbitrary and Capricious grading](#)
- [Study Abroad](#)
- [UMD Career Center](#)
- [Tutoring](#)
- [Writing Center](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Student Health Center](#)
- [Counseling Center](#)
- [Accessibility and Disability Services](#) (apply for academic accommodations)
- [UMD Undergrad Ombuds](#)
- [Financial Aid & Cashier's Office](#)
- [Pre-Law Advising Office](#)
- [UMD National Scholarships Office](#)

SECTION 9: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Use your UMD email address

Communicate appropriately with staff, faculty, and advisors

Read your email

- Weekly SPP newsletter
- Weekly SPP Career Services email

Connect with SPP Career Services early and often

SECTION 10: UMD AND SPP VOCAB

For a more extensive list, check out this list [HERE!](#)

UMD VOCAB

- [The Mall](#) - the grassy space between the McKeldin Library & the Miller Administration Building
- [ODK Fountain](#) - the large reflecting pond and fountain in the middle of the Mall
- [Sundial](#) - the sundial in the middle of the Mall

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- SGA - the Student Government Association, which is the premier student-led governing body at the University of Maryland that represents undergraduate students
- Testudo - name of our mascot but also a main online hub for student "self-service" related records/registration and anything Registrar related
- Registrar - the campus office responsible for registration and the maintenance of student records, located in the Mitchell Building.
- ELMS/Canvas - the central hub where assignments, grades, and course material are uploaded for your courses
- DIRECTORY ID - user name for UMD systems, typically your first initial, last name, and a number and also your university email address
- UID - the number found on your University ID card
- Eduroam - the university wifi system, where you can log in with your Directory ID
- STAMP - UMD's student union where you can find a food court, the bookstore, and the student activities hub

SPP VOCAB

- SPP - School of Public Policy
- DGI - Do Good Institute
- CGS - Center for Global Sustainability
- CISSM - Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland
- GoTech - Center for Governance of Technology and Systems
- IPL - Institute for Public Leadership
- PLCY - refers to the Public Policy Major and to the School of Public Policy
- MPP - Master's in Public Policy
- PSGA - the Policy Student Government Association (PSGA) is a team of undergraduate and graduate students who represent the needs and interests of policy students
- BA/MPP - the SPP plus one program, where students can earn a BA and MPP in Public Policy in five years

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