



# Joint Graduate Pathway Law and Public Administration

The College of Law and Askew School of Public Administration & Policy joint graduate pathway in law and public administration, J.D./M.P.A., permits the completion of both programs concurrently. Current law students must meet with and submit all documents for admission to the College of Law Joint Graduate Pathway Coordinator before March 1st for summer admissions or July 1st for fall admissions during or following their first year of law school. The College of Law Joint Graduate Pathway Coordinator will then submit their completed packet to the College of Law and the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy for approval. Any student who has completed M.P.A. coursework prior to matriculating to the College of Law, or who wishes to apply for the joint graduate pathway after beginning their second year of law school, must obtain prior written approval from the College of Law before applying for the joint graduate pathway.

Applicants to the M.P.A. program must have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and an upper division (junior and senior) grade point average of 3.0 or better and official and currently valid standardized test score(s) from a nationally recognized graduate-level admission test (GRE, GMAT, LSAT, or other). Applicants should contact the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy to obtain specific information on the standardized test requirement.

## How To Apply

1. Visit the Florida State University College of Law Office of Admissions to obtain a joint graduate pathway application and necessary documents for the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy.
2. Complete the documentation.
3. Do not send or have documents sent to the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy. All documents must be returned to the College of Law Office of Admissions before March 1st for summer admissions or July 1st for fall admissions during or following their 1L year.

Applicants will need to:

1. Provide a completed JOINT GRADUATE PATHWAY APPLICATION form.
2. Provide an updated legal resume.
3. Provide a completed ASKEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY APPLICATION FOR ADMISSIONS form.
4. Have official and currently valid standardized test score(s) on file with Florida State University from a nationally recognized graduate-level admission test (GRE, GMAT, LSAT, or other).
5. Provide three letters of recommendation from employers or college professors. Applicable letters provided during the application to the College of Law are acceptable. Each newly submitted letter must be accompanied by a RECOMMENDATION FORM FOR ADMISSION.
6. Provide a personal statement using the ASKEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY PERSONAL STATEMENT form.

## Program Sequence

The normal program sequence for a student in the joint graduate pathway is:

1st Year (Fall, Spring)	30 hours of Law
2nd Year (Summer, Fall, Spring)	33 hours of Public Administration
3rd & 4th Years	49 hours of Law
Total Law Courses	79 hours
Total Public Admin. Courses	33 hours
Shared Credit Courses	9 hours of Law, 9 hours of Public Administration
Total J.D./M.P.A. Courses	112 hours

Specific J.D. degree requirements can be found online at [www.law.fsu.edu](http://www.law.fsu.edu).



## Public Administration Curriculum

A student enrolled in the joint graduate pathway must complete 33 credit hours, consisting of seven core courses from the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy, an internship and an Action Report. All courses are three credit hours.

- PAD 5035 Policy Development & Administration\*
- PAD 5050 The Profession of Public Administration
- PAD 5106 Public Organizations\*
- PAD 5227 Managing Public Financial Resources\*
- PAD 5417 Human Resource Management
- PAD 5700 Research Design
- PAD 5701 Quantitative Analysis in Public Administration
- PAD 5946 Public Service Internship
- PAD 6908 Seminar: Action Report

In addition, six credit hours of M.P.A. specialization and elective courses are required to complete the M.P.A. program. Students will select two courses in consultation with their advisor or the M.P.A. director. The list of elective M.P.A. courses can be found on the web site for the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy at <http://coss.fsu.edu/askew/home>.

\* Required courses for the joint graduate pathway from the M.P.A. curriculum that will also be used as shared credit toward the J.D. degree. The following courses from the J.D. curriculum are required and will be used as shared credit for the M.P.A. degree:

- LAW 5522 Legislation and Regulation (3 hours)
- LAW 5501 Constitutional Law I (3 hours)
- LAW 6520 Administrative Law (3 hours)

Note on Shared Credit: Because a joint graduate pathway allows a student to complete each curriculum by taking fewer hours overall, each program will require that certain courses be taken from the other curriculum to cover the number of hours reduced from their respective curriculum. These courses are part of the respective program's curriculum and are not counted toward the credit requirement for the other curriculum. They may or may not be included in the normal core requirements of the respective program's curriculum.



## Questions

The joint graduate pathway must be completed within seven years, although most students complete the program in four years.

For further information related to applying for this joint graduate pathway, please contact:

- Karusha Y. Sharpe  
Assistant Dean for Academic Programs  
Florida State University College of Law  
(850) 645-0091  
[ksharpe@law.fsu.edu](mailto:ksharpe@law.fsu.edu)

For further information about curriculum requirements, please contact:

- Erin Ryan  
Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson Professor and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs  
Florida State University College of Law  
(850) 645-0072  
[eryan@law.fsu.edu](mailto:eryan@law.fsu.edu)
- Gary VanLandingham  
Professor, MPA Program Director, and Reubin O'D Askew Senior Practitioner in Residence  
Florida State University Askew School of Public Administration & Policy  
(850) 644-7399  
[gvanlandingham@fsu.edu](mailto:gvanlandingham@fsu.edu)



## Conferring of Degrees

Students in joint graduate pathways receive both degrees concurrently. Students may not be certified as a graduate without having completed the graduation requirements in both the College of Law and the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy. This includes the Law upper-level writing requirement, the skills training requirement, and the pro bono requirement.

## Residency Requirement

Unless otherwise approved by both advisors and the College of Law Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, students enrolled in joint graduate pathways must earn a minimum of seven semesters of residence credit. Based on the College of Law formula for determining residency, one semester of residency credit is earned for every 12 credit hours of courses taken in the College of Law and the Askew School of Public Administration & Policy.

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