

PUBLIC POLICY

About Public Policy

The Max Bell School of Public Policy's flagship teaching program is a one-year Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.), combining courses in the theory of public policy with courses covering the complexities of the real-world policymaking process. The program will tackle today's most important policy issues in Canada and around the world from varied perspectives. It will also place more emphasis than is usual in such programs on practical skills including conflict resolution, persuasive writing, effective presentations, and the briefing of officials.

More than ever, the world needs public policy that is creative, bold, and effective. That is why we're excited about the Max Bell School of Public Policy and its flagship master's program, whose mission is to explore the complexities of the policymaking process from various perspectives and to prepare the policy leaders of the future, in Canada and around the world.

Public Policy Admission Requirements and Application Procedures

Admission Requirements

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program is directed at early career professionals — ideally with two to five years of professional experience — who are interested in developing expertise in the field of public policy. Recent graduates with an exceptional academic record will also be considered; however, in the absence of professional experience, more weight will be placed on the applicants' academic record.

A bachelor's degree (or equivalent as recognized by McGill University) is required.

The ideal applicant will have completed undergraduate courses in Political Science, Economics, Quantitative Methods, and Statistics.

An overall Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.6 out of 4.0 or higher is recommended. A minimum CGPA of 3.0 out of a possible 4.0, OR a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.2 out of 4.0 in the last two years of full-time studies is required.

Applicants whose mother tongue is not English, and who have not completed an undergraduate or graduate degree from a recognized foreign institution where English is the language of instruction or from a recognized Canadian/American institution (anglophone or francophone) are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A minimum score of 100 for the Internet-based test (iBT) with each component score not less than 20 is required. Please use McGill's institutional code, 0935, when writing the exam.

Applicants may write the IELTS (International English Language Testing Systems) instead of the TOEFL exam. A minimum overall band score of 7.0 is required, with each component score not less than 7.0. IELTS test scores must be sent electronically by IELTS directly to McGill University using McGill's institutional code: **0935**.

Please check if you may qualify for English language proficiency exemptions.

Application Procedures

McGill's online application form for graduate program candidates is available at <https://future.mcgill.ca/apply/>.

Detailed application procedures are available at mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/apply.

Additional Requirements

The items and clarifications below are additional requirements set by this department:

- Personal Statement (1,000 words). Your essay should explain why your background makes you an ideal candidate for the Max Bell MPP program, and how success in this program will enable you to achieve your professional goals
- *Curriculum vitae*
- Two letters of reference, ideally one academic and one professional
- TOEFL or IELTS score written within the past two years (where applicable)

Interview

After a preliminary review of their file, some candidates may be invited for an interview, to be conducted remotely. We would like to highlight the importance of the interview as it is not only for the admissions committee to better understand your background and experiences, but also an important opportunity for you to ask key questions and ensure that the Max Bell School MPP program is right for you. During the interview you will be asked to talk about your interests in public policy, and what you hope to accomplish following your MPP experience.

Application Dates and Deadlines

The deadline to complete your application is January 15th (international applicants) or February 1st (Canadian applicants), including submission of all supporting documents. Please note: Entrance to the MPP program is highly competitive. It is in the applicant's interest to apply as early as possible. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis so that the earlier a file is complete, the sooner the applicant may expect to receive an answer.

Information on application deadlines is available at mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/how-apply/application-steps/application-deadlines. The school's admission requirements and application procedures are available at mcgill.ca/maxbellschool/mpp/admissions-guide.

Admission to graduate studies is competitive; accordingly, late and/or incomplete applications are considered only as time and space permit.

Available Programs

- Public Policy (Non-Thesis) (M.P.P.) (45 credits)

Location

Max Bell School of Public Policy
McGill University
680 Sherbrooke Street West, Suite 600
Montreal QC H3A 2M7
Telephone: 514-398-1937
Email: maxbell.school@mcgill.ca
Website: mcgill.ca/maxbellschool