Application Instructions and Procedures

Applicants must be admitted separately to both the School of Law and the Institute for Public Service in the College of Arts and Sciences. For the School of Law admissions requirements, please refer to the School of Law application process page. Applicants may be admitted to both schools before starting in the joint program; alternatively, students may seek admission to the other school during their first year of law or public administration. In any case, students will be expected to meet the respective school’s admissions deadlines for the coming year.

All application materials must be received by the application deadline to receive full consideration. For application deadlines and entry terms, refer to the priority deadlines. International applicants and those with international transcripts should consult the International Requirements Page, for deadlines and other requirements, as they may differ.

- Complete graduate application form and submit the $55 non-refundable application fee. The fee is waived for Seattle University alumni and employees.
- Evidence of minimum of earned four-year baccalaureate degree from regionally accredited institution or U.S. equivalent. As evidenced submit an official, degree-posted transcript from last 90 quarter/60 semester graded credits of your bachelor’s degree, including any transfer credit earned during this time, and any post-baccalaureate course work.
- Minimum 3.00 GPA in last 90 quarter/60 semester credits required. In special cases, probationary admission possible with less than 3.00 GPA. Applicants earning a bachelor’s degree from non-graded institutions must submit official scores from a Graduate Record Exam (GRE) in lieu of GPA.
- Professional résumé demonstrating at least one year of continuous full-time work experience
- Two recommendations using MPA forms provided with application from individuals who can speak to your qualifications; at least one recommendation should be from a recent supervisor.
- Two-page maximum statements of intent summarizing interest in program, commitment to public service, and discussing ways in which MPA will assist you in reaching your career and education goals.
- Applicants for whom English is a non-native language must demonstrate English proficiency regardless of English language studies, residence in the United States or an English-speaking country, or immigration status. Graduate applicants with a baccalaureate or higher degrees from recognized colleges in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, New Zealand or Australia and who have continued to reside in countries where English is the primary language for at least two years prior to applying to Seattle University will have this requirement waived. English proficiency may be met with an official TOEFL score of 92 (IBT), or 580 (PBT); the IELTS exam with a minimum score of 7.0; PTE score of 62 62.
Seattle University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political ideology, or status as a Vietnam-era or special disabled veteran in the administration of any of its education policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletics, and other school-administered policies and programs, or in its employment related policies and practices. All University policies, practices and procedures are administered in a manner consistent with Seattle University’s Catholic and Jesuit identity and character. Inquires related to these policies may be referred to the University’s Vice President for Human Resources and University Services and Equal Opportunity Officer at (206) 296-5870.