Now Accepting Doctoral Applications

The School of Public Administration (SPA) at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) invites applications for the 2019-2020 admission season for our PhD in Public Administration. The UNO SPA PhD program is cohort-based, preparing students for careers in research and teaching and/or leadership positions in public administration.

As an established Carnegie Doctoral program, we are unique in creating a supportive, collaborative, and rigorous environment for students to develop their intellectual identities and a comprehensive understanding of the field and a range of research traditions. Students can also specialize in several areas, including:

- Public Budgeting & Finance - ranked 4th in the country by U.S. News & World Report
- Nonprofit Management - ranked 11th
- Urban Management
- Information & Technology Management
- Public Aviation & Transportation
- Public Administration Theory
- Public Policy

Our graduates typically complete the PhD program having at least one or two publications and substantial teaching experience, making them more competitive on the academic job market. We have a strong record of placing our students in faculty positions as well as in government and private positions focused on applied research, evaluation, and consulting. Please see our 2018-19 Annual Report for more about our students and alumni and their accomplishments.

We award a limited number of graduate assistantships (GAs) each year. GAs include tuition, a stipend of $18,000 per academic year (for 9 months), subsidized health insurance, and office space. All PhD students in our program can also apply for conference travel funding (for around $1,000 a year) and additional research support ($5,000 twice while in the program). Summer teaching opportunities may also be available for additional pay. Assistantships typically include four years of funding (dependent on the student continuing to meet program requirements).

This year, the faculty are particularly seeking applicants for assistantships in:

- Emerging Technologies and Public Governance – see more information here
- Migration, Human Rights, and Emergency Management – see more information here
- Nonprofit Capacity Building, Leadership, and Racial Equity – see more information here

The faculty will also consider applications in interest areas other than these targeted areas as well, particularly those that align with our specializations and faculty research interest areas in the School.

UNO is located in Omaha, Nebraska, which has many amenities, and a diverse and vibrant community. Omaha is among the most affordable places to live while working on a PhD, with a cost of living among the lowest in the country.

Prospective students can participate in a Virtual Information Session on Monday, Nov 11, 5:30-6:30 PM (CST). Find more information and RSVP here. We also invite prospective students to arrange a campus visit to learn more about our program, meet faculty, and enjoy the friendly and dynamic Omaha area. Please contact doctoral committee chair, Dr. Angela Eikenberry (aikenberry@unomaha.edu), to set up a time to visit or if you have any questions.

Applications for the UNO SPA PhD in Public Administration program are due January 15, 2020 (if applying for funding) or March 15, 2020 (if not seeking funding). An application and admission checklist are available here.