

# Master of Public Administration Program Application

All fields with an \* are required.

Questions marked with an asterisk (\*) require an answer.

**Thank you for your interest in Evergreen's Master of Public Administration program. Your application is the next step to being considered as a candidate to join our learning community.**

Your application is not considered complete until we have received each of these required documents or items.

Submit all materials in a Word or PDF format. A complete application includes:

- Current Resume

- Statement of Purpose

- Public Policy Memo

- Recommendations from two people who can comment on your readiness for graduate study

- Official transcript from the college or university that conferred your Bachelor's degree

- Unofficial transcripts from additional colleges you have attended

- \$50 non-refundable application fee

AmeriCorps members and alumni, and Peace Corps volunteers may qualify for an application fee waiver.

If you think you qualify for an application fee waiver, please review this information on the [Graduate Application Fee Waiver](#) page before submitting your application.

We encourage you to order your transcripts at the beginning of your application process. You must upload materials and add references prior to submitting your application.

Application questions or need support?

Disability accommodations: Contact Access Services to request disability accommodation in the application process at (360) 867-6348 or (360)867-6834 (TTY).

Application portal or transcript questions: Contact the [Graduate Admissions office](#) (Please add MPA to your message to ensure this is directed to the correct program.)

Application process questions: Contact the [MPA Assistant Directors](#).

For additional information on application materials and writing prompts, review the "Detailed application instructions" section of the [How to Apply - MPA page](#).

Optional questions appear on this application. Evergreen is required by state or federal mandate to provide these questions to collect and report data to support Washington state and federal programs which address the needs of college students.

All fields with an \* are required.

#### Application Material Submission

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NOTE: ALL ATTACHMENTS should be uploaded on the "APPLICATION ATTACHMENTS" tab found along the left side or the top of the application.

Your document title should include: your name, graduate program applying to, and section the attachment is related to (example: Personal Statement).

Preferred formats: WORD or PDF

For additional information on application materials and writing prompts, review the "Detailed application instructions" section of the "[Apply to the MPA Program](#)" page.

**CURRENT RESUME** - upload as an attachment

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE** - upload as an attachment

Maximum of 1,000 words (3 pages, double-spaced)

Tell us what brings you to public service and to the Evergreen MPA program. Why do you want to pursue graduate study in public administration in general and at Evergreen in particular?

**PUBLIC POLICY MEMO** - upload as an attachment

Maximum of 500 words (1 - 2 pages double-spaced), not including cover page, citations, etc.

Describe and argue a position about a significant public problem or policy with which you have had personal or professional experience.

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** - requested through the application form or application portal

On the "Recommendations" tab, list two (2) references who you wish to receive our recommender evaluation form.

If you graduated from college within the last two years, at one of your recommendations must be from a faculty member.

**BACHELOR'S DEGREE and MINIMUM GPA**

Received from an approved accredited institution of higher education. You may be admitted provisionally pending completion of your bachelor's degree.

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (or equivalent measures or performance if a graduate of an institution with no grading system) for those credits earned at the institution awarding the bachelor's degree.

If your GPA falls below 3.0, but you are otherwise well qualified, we encourage you to apply.

If you are an Evergreen student/alumni, or alumni of an institution with no grading system, we will review your transcript for evidence of readiness for graduate level study.

**OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT and UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS**

In order to complete the application process, please send us:

Official transcript : request and submit official transcripts from the institution that awarded your bachelor's degree and any subsequent degrees.

Unofficial transcript: You must also include unofficial transcripts from all prior undergraduate and graduate institutions.

Evergreen students and alumni , you are responsible for requesting an official copy of your Evergreen transcript to be sent to the Graduate Admissions Office.

**\*\*** If you have not yet finished your degree at the time of application, you should submit your in-progress official transcript to the Graduate Admissions office. If you are admitted, you will need to arrange to have a final, official

transcript sent after your degree is conferred.

A transcript is considered official if it bears the official seal and signature of the issuing institution and is not a copy. The transcript can be:

1. Sent directly by the issuing institution; or,
2. Delivered or sent by the applicant, as long as it's still in the issuing institution's original sealed envelope .

If you are submitting via an e-transcripts and it asks for an email address, please use [graduateadmissions@evergreen.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@evergreen.edu).

Mail or deliver transcripts to:

The Evergreen State College  
Graduate Admissions, Attn: MPA  
Mailstop: Evans Hall 1200  
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW  
Olympia, WA 98505

All fields with an \* are required.

#### Personal Information

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We will need your full name (as it appears on State IDs) in the fields below.

\* First name

Matthew

Chosen or preferred first name

Matt

Middle name or initial

Emerson

\* Last name

Ragsdale

Suffix

*If your legal last, family, or first name has been changed, provide that information in the fields below. This information may assist in identifying supporting documents we have received.*

Former first name

Former last or family name

Additional former first name

Additional former last or family name

\* Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

09/07/1997

[mm/dd/yyyy]

\* Legally assigned sex (Federal and Washington state agencies require Evergreen to collect and report information about the legally assigned sexual identity of applicants and students. There are only three categories provided by these external agencies: female and male for all states and X for WA and specific states.)

Male

My gender identity is

Transgender

I identify my gender as (if not listed)  
Transgender man

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Email on file (View only field)  
[matthew.ragsdale@outlook.com](mailto:matthew.ragsdale@outlook.com)

Update email in this field if no longer accurate. (No employer or organization emails. ex: .edu, .gov)  
Contact [Graduate Admissions](#) if you have questions regarding your email address.

\* Cell Phone  
[9185768914](#)

Home or Other Phone

\* I agree to receive text messages (Charges may apply depending on carrier and phone plan.)  
Yes

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Please share your parent or legal guardian's highest level of education. (used for state reporting)  
Bachelor Degree (4 yr)

Are you at least a 1/2 time permanent Evergreen staff?  
No

Are you at least a 1/2 time permanent WA State, K-12, or higher education public school employee?  
Yes

If yes to above question, list where employed.  
[Department of Ecology](#)

**US Armed Forces, Reserves, or Dependents**

Please contact Evergreen's [Veterans Affairs Office](#) if you have questions about benefits.

Are you currently active duty in the US Armed Forces or Reserves?

Are you a veteran of the US Armed Forces or Reserves?

Are you a dependent or spouse of a veteran or service member?

Do you plan to use veteran benefits?

Providing your Social Security Number (SSN) on this application is *optional* and will not play a role in the College's admission decision. Providing your SSN will assist in the processing of your federal financial aid and supporting educational research, which, in some instances, requires a SSN or Tax Identification Number (TIN). Releasing student information will be in accordance with all appropriate state and federal laws. Your SSN is not used as your primary student identification at Evergreen.

Social Security Number (do not use dashes or spaces)  
[442116205](#)

## **International Student and Visa Information**

\* Will you require a student F-1 or other visa to study at Evergreen or have applied for US residency or refugee status?  
No

All fields with an \* are required.

General Application Information

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MPA concentration for Tribal Governance is only available to Tribal Governance Cohort students.

\* Which cohort or learning community are you applying to?

\* Graduate Program Concentration  
Public Policy

I have previously applied at Evergreen  
No

Most recent program applied to and year of application (example: MPA, 2011)

I have previously attended Evergreen  
No

Date, or dates, of attendance at Evergreen (example: Fall 2009, Fall 2013)

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I am a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer  
[ ]

I am an AmeriCorps member or alumni  
[ ]

I am a McNair Scholar  
[ ]

I first heard about MPA from  
Web Search

Other (not listed)

All fields with an \* are required.

#### Mailing Address Information

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\* Are you a resident of Washington State?  
Yes

\* Number, street name, apt  
8521 Litt Dr SE

Address line 2 (if needed)  
Apt 106

\* City  
Lacey

\* State or Province (Use Intl No State if not US or Canada)  
WA

\* Zip/Postal Code (International addresses 000)  
98516

Check box below if different permanent address  
[ ]

#### Washington State Information

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\* Washington State County  
Thurston

Provide the date you began living in Washington State if it is less than 12 consecutive months prior to the start of the quarter. Please email the [Graduate Admissions office](#) if you have questions.

I moved to Washington State on (format as mm/yyyy)

08/2020

[mm/yyyy]

All fields with an \* are required.

#### Academic History

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Request an official transcript be sent to Evergreen's Graduate Admission's office from the college or university that awarded your bachelor's degree. Evergreen students and alumni, you are responsible for requesting an official copy of your Evergreen transcript to be sent to the Graduate Admissions Office. See more about this requirement on the [How to Apply - MPA page](#).

You must also include unofficial transcripts from all prior undergraduate and graduate institutions. These may be added as attachments in the attachment section of this application or emailed to the [Graduate Admissions office](#). (Please add MPA to your message to ensure this is directed to the correct program.)

Please note, not including colleges or universities you've attended may result in delayed processing of your application. If you have questions, please email the [Graduate Admissions office](#).

Hint: Type the primary name of the school (Santa Cruz) without University, College, or Community College (or varied abbreviations). The school list is sorted alphabetically by school name with the city and state listed at the end. Once the list appears, locate your institution and click to select. If school is not listed, use SCHOOL NOT FOUND — UNKNOWN as the value.

\* Institution Name

University of Oregon

If you did not find your institution in the list, please complete the following questions.

Institution Name

Institution City/State/Country

Check below if this is your most recently attended institution

☒ [X]

For attendance start and end dates, use the first day of the month if you do not know the exact date.

\* Start date (list the most recent if breaks in your attendance)

09/01/2017

[mm/dd/yyyy]

\* End date (list the most recent if breaks in your attendance)

06/01/2020

[mm/dd/yyyy]

List additional years you attended this institution (if any)

\* I have earned or expect to earn a degree(s) from this institution. If yes, please complete the information below.

Yes

College Major/Degree Emphasis

Planning, Public Policy, and Management

\* Degree earned or expected from this institution. Select "None" if you did not receive a degree.

Bachelor's of Science (BS)

1st Degree earned or expected date

06/2020

[mm/yyyy]

2nd College Major/Degree Emphasis

2nd degree earned or expected from this institution

2nd degree earned or expected date

[mm/yyyy]

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Click "Add Another Response" to add previously attended institutions

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#### Academic History

Request an official transcript be sent to Evergreen's Graduate Admission's office from the college or university that awarded your bachelor's degree. Evergreen students and alumni , you are responsible for requesting an official copy of your Evergreen transcript to be sent to the Graduate Admissions Office. See more about this requirement on the [How to Apply - MPA page](#) .

You must also include unofficial transcripts from all prior undergraduate and graduate institutions. These may be added as attachments in the attachment section of this application or emailed to the [Graduate Admissions office](#) .(Please add MPA to your message to ensure this is directed to the correct program.)

Please note, not including colleges or universities you've attended may result in delayed processing of your application. If you have questions, please email the [Graduate Admissions office](#) .

Hint: Type the primary name of the school (Santa Cruz) without University, College, or Community College (or varied abbreviations). The school list is sorted alphabetically by school name with the city and state listed at the end. Once the list appears, locate your institution and click to select. If school is not listed, use SCHOOL NOT FOUND — UNKNOWN as the value.

\* Institution Name

Portland State University

If you did not find your institution in the list, please complete the following questions.

Institution Name

Institution City/State/Country

Check below if this is your most recently attended institution

[ ☐ ]

For attendance start and end dates, use the first day of the month if you do not know the exact date.

\* Start date (list the most recent if breaks in your attendance)

09/26/2016

[mm/dd/yyyy]

\* End date (list the most recent if breaks in your attendance)

06/15/2017

[mm/dd/yyyy]

List additional years you attended this institution (if any)

\* I have earned or expect to earn a degree(s) from this institution. If yes, please complete the information below.

No

College Major/Degree Emphasis

Biochemistry

\* Degree earned or expected from this institution. Select "None" if you did not receive a degree.

None

1st Degree earned or expected date

[mm/yyyy]

2nd College Major/Degree Emphasis

2nd degree earned or expected from this institution

2nd degree earned or expected date

[mm/yyyy]

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Click "Add Another Response" to add previously attended institutions

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All fields with an \* are required.

Evergreen is required to ask all applicants to provide a response in these two sections. Your response(s) are optional.

Regardless of your response to the Hispanic/Latinx origin question, please consider completing the heritage identity question.

This information is not used to make an admissions decision.

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I am of Hispanic or Latinx origin

No

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Please select on or more which best identify your heritage. With a keyboard, hold control (PC) or command (MAC) to select multiple items from the list. With touch, tap on the form field to open the chooser and then tap to select each item that applies.

I describe my heritage or racial identity as (select one or more)

White

All fields with an \* are required.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Two (2) recommendations are required.

List two (2) recommenders who you wish to receive our recommender evaluation form. Your recommenders should be able to provide evidence of:

Analytical and critical thinking skills

Writing skills

Oral communication and interpersonal skills

Other qualities that contribute to graduate school success, such as: persistence despite difficulties or challenges, leadership ability, emotional intelligence, etc.



Recommendations must be submitted from the recommender using the evaluation form or by submitting a letter directly to the Graduate Admissions office.

If you graduated from college within the last two years, at least one of your two recommendations must be from a faculty member.

Other potential recommenders may include:

- Current or former faculty
- Supervisors
- Colleagues

Please note: An automated invitation will be sent to your recommender upon completion of this section. Due to the embedded link to the recommendation form, this invitation may go to their spam/junk folder. We encourage you to follow up to ensure they received the invitation.

#### Recommender - General

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\* Recommender's First Name

Derek

\* Recommender's Last Name

Nixon

Recommender's Title

Auctions & Market Section Manager

Recommender's Institution/Organization

Department of Ecology

\* Recommender's Email

dnix461@ecy.wa.gov

Recommender's Phone (XXX xxxxxxx format)

3604602868

\* I waive my access to review this letter of recommendation.

I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.

#### Recommender - General

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\* Recommender's First Name

Kari

\* Recommender's Last Name

Johnson

Recommender's Title

Environmental Planner 4

Recommender's Institution/Organization

Washington Department of Ecology

\* Recommender's Email

kajo461@ecy.wa.gov

Recommender's Phone (XXX xxxxxxx format)

509-481-1516

\* I waive my access to review this letter of recommendation.  
I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.

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Waiving your rights to view recommendation letters means that you are choosing not to review the letters submitted on your behalf during the application process. [Under FERPA](#) , after enrollment at Evergreen you may be allowed to review any letters of recommendation that have been added to your permanent file.

All fields with an \* are required.

## REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Please use this section to attach your Resume, Statement of Purpose, and Public Policy Memo.  
Your document title should include: your name, graduate program, and type of document (example: SusanBloomMPAresume).  
Preferred formats: WORD or PDF

### Optional Attachments

Please use this section to attach your unofficial transcripts.  
Your document title should include: your name, graduate program, transcript and institution name (example: SusanBloomMPAtranscriptYaleUniv)

**\*\*\*\*SAVE after uploading each document. \*\*\*\*DO NOT submit your application until you have upload all your attachments.**

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Upload your application attachments using the "Attach file" button

All fields with an \* are required.

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### Cohort Confirmation

\* Please confirm your cohort or learning community  
Olympia

After signing, you will be directed to the "Application Fee and Fee Waiver" tab. Select a [fee waiver option](#) if you meet the qualifications, or click the "Submit" button to be taken to CashNet to pay the non-refundable \$50 application fee.

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## Agreement

In signing this form, I acknowledge that failure to disclose and submit official transcripts from all schools, colleges, or universities attended and failure to disclose and submit complete and accurate information may result in the denial of admission or subsequent dismissal from said institution. I certify that to the best of my knowledge statements I have made in this application are complete and true.

I understand that my application is incomplete without the acknowledgement below and my electronic signature.

\* By checking the box below, I acknowledge I have read and understand the statement above. (The signature fields will appear once checked.)  
[X]

The Equal Opportunity Policy of The Evergreen State College expressly prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, age, disability,

pregnancy, use of a trained service animal, veteran status or citizenship status.

Electronic Signature

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Please type your name as it appears on your application.

\* Signature of Applicant

Matthew Ragsdale

\* Date Signed (mm/dd/yyyy)

01/30/2024

[mm/dd/yyyy]

All fields with an \* are required.

Required Fields Review List (completed = Check Mark)

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This page will display any requirements that may be required as you complete the application.

The Evergreen State College  
Graduate Studies  
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW  
Olympia , Washington 98505  
(360) 867-6856

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