

# GRADUATE EDUCATION — DOCTORAL

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The mission of the doctor of public administration program is to educate students for careers in high levels of public service in state government and management or for careers in academia. The program emphasizes the theory, analysis, evaluation, and practice of public administration and public policy. As a graduate of the DPA program, you will be equipped to contribute and use significant new knowledge about state government and agencies. While the DPA at UIS is primarily a practitioner-oriented degree program, it is also appropriate if you are interested in research and teaching.

## MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree with a minimum grade-point average of 3.25 in graduate course work.
- Satisfactory performance on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), taken within the past five years.
- Appropriate fit between the goals and objectives of the student and the mission and capacity of the DPA program.

- An interview, if requested, by the committee. Applications for admission must include all of the following:
    - Completed UIS application.
    - Official transcripts from all colleges and universities you attended, showing undergraduate and graduate completion.
    - Official GRE scores.
    - Three letters of recommendation; at least one must be from an academic reference who can attest to your likelihood of success in a doctoral program.
    - A current resume.
    - Three- to five-page statement of your academic and career goals.
    - A current writing sample, such as a research paper or report.
    - *International students:* Submit an official TOEFL score of at least 575 (paper based) or 232 (computer based).
- Prospective students are encouraged to apply by March 15 for fall admission or October 30 for spring admission; however applications received later may be considered.

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

To earn a doctor of public administration degree from the University of Illinois at Springfield, you must fulfill the following requirements:

- Meet program matriculation requirements.
- Earn at least 54 doctoral-level hours of course credit with a grade-point average of at least 3.00, and a grade no lower than B in any core, research, or concentration course.
- Complete at least 12 semester hours of dissertation credit. During work on the dissertation, you are required to be enrolled in at least one dissertation credit hour each fall and spring semester.
- Successfully pass a comprehensive examination in the core courses, research courses, and area of concentration.
- Develop, present, and have approved a dissertation proposal.
- Research, write, and present a completed dissertation to your Dissertation Committee and satisfactorily complete an oral defense of the dissertation.
- Complete a graduation contract and pay graduation fees.