

## **SECTION 7.0 STUDENT SERVICES (Standard 7.0)**

Student services available for mission support range from advisement to library facilities to computing facilities; each are an essential element to the preparation of students for careers in public policy and public management. These services provide both the student development mechanisms and research capabilities necessary to meet mission accomplishment in the area of professional education, service, and the advancement and creation of new knowledge.

### **7.1 Advisement and Appraisal**

A. Advising System: Career guidance is provided to all students from the Program Coordinator and appropriate members of the faculty. All entering MPA students are instructed in their admission letter to meet with the MPA coordinator before registering for classes. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss degree requirements, recommended course sequences, based on the student status as being full or part-timer, and other issues relayed to the curriculum and the program. At advising meetings the coordinator discusses the core MPA course, specializations and electives and assists the students in devising a class plan. The Program Director has a reduced case load that allows for considerable time for devotion to office hours, student service and advisement. The program director is available during registration periods for student advisement. In addition, students have ready access to other members of the core faculty, who also maintain regular office hours each week for the purpose of providing advice on individual courses and related matters.

Students whose GPA falls below 3.0 are placed on academic probation. If the GPA is not raised above a 3.0 after two additional semesters on academic probation, the student is dropped from the program. The Director of Graduate Studies advises each student on academic probation with regard to work load attempted, and course selection.

- B. Financial Assistance: Financial aid is applied for and awarded at the university level and is not routinely reported to the school. Teaching and research assistantships for MPA students are uncommon. Approximately 3-6 assistantships are held by MPA students each semester. The small number of assistantships is due to two reasons. First, MPA have employment outside the university; second, the large number of Ph.D. candidates generally have precedence for assistantships.
- C. Attrition: Choosing the cohort of students that were admitted to and enrolled in the MPA program in the 1999-2000 academic year, the following table summarizes the attrition. Of the twenty four students admitted and enrolled eight students have graduated with MPA degrees, eleven students are still active in the MPA program, reflecting the part-time status of those students, three students have transferred to other graduate programs at the School of Social Sciences and two students are no longer active.

ATTRITION for 1999-2000 cohort

	Minority Female	Minority Male	White Female	White Male	Total
Graduated	1	2		5	8
Active	3	2	3	3	11
Transferred		2		1	3
Inactive	1			1	2
Total	5	6	3	10	24

## 7.2 Placement Service

A. Placement Assistance: Students in the MPA program have ready access to the University Placement Office which includes job postings and placement councilors. All MPA students also have university e-mail accounts. Job announcements and listings that are appropriate for MPA students are placed on e-mail, as well as in the placement binder in the MPA program office. The School of Social Sciences has plans to revise the duties of support personnel in the School office to include greater emphasis being placed on job placement focus for students specifically in the School, and to facilitate coordination with placement professions in the University office as well as in the community.

### B. Number of Graduates:

Year	Total Graduates	Minority Graduates	Female Graduates	Graduates with Disabilities
2001	16	5	9	
2000	18	9	11	
1999	30	10	9	
1998	24	7	9	2

### C. Follow-up of Graduates:

#### Master of Public Affairs Graduates

University of Texas at Dallas  
Employment since Graduation

#### Government Agencies

Arizona Corporate Commission, Phoenix, Arizona  
Dallas County Community College District  
City of Austin Texas  
City of Dallas, Texas  
City of Kaufman, Texas  
City of McKinney, Texas

City of Plano, Texas  
 City of Terrell, Texas  
 City of University Park, Texas  
 City Manager, Springtown Texas  
 City Manager, Quitman, Texas  
 City Manager's Office, Lewisville, Texas  
 City Manager's Office, Warren Missouri  
 Comptroller's Office, State of Texas, Austin, Texas  
 Department of Housing and Neighborhood Services, Dallas, Texas  
 D.I.S.D., Department of Planning, Evaluation, Testing, Dallas, Texas  
 Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C.  
 Federal Home Loan Bank, Dallas, Texas  
 General Accounting Office, Washington, DC  
 Health Care Finance Administration, Dallas, Texas  
 Health Care Finance Administration, Washington, DC  
 Inspector General Office, Health and Human Services, Dallas, Texas  
 Internal Revenue Service, Dallas, Texas  
 National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Houston Texas  
 Texas Department of Rehabilitative Services, Dallas, Texas  
 United States Bureau of Justice Assistants, Washington, DC  
 United States Department of Energy, Washington, DC  
 United States Department of Health and Human Services, Dallas, Texas  
 United States Department of Justice, Dallas, Texas  
 United States Drug Enforcement Administration, Washington, DC  
 United States Environmental Protection Agency, Dallas, Texas  
 United States General Accounting Office, Washington, DC  
 United States Office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington, DC  
 United States Senate, Committee on AGING, Washington, DC  
 VHA, Inc. Irving Texas

#### **Non-Profits and For-Profits**

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Dallas, Texas  
 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, Dallas, Texas  
 Cambridge Systemic, Cambridge, Mass.  
 Catholic Charities, Dallas, Texas  
 Cooper Consulting, Inc., Dallas, Texas  
 First City Texas, Houston, Texas  
 Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Dallas, Texas  
 Health Economics Corporation, Dallas, Texas  
 Holiday Inn, Inc., Nashville, TN.  
 Humana Hospital, Bedford, Texas  
 Institute for Technology/Rutgers, New York, New York  
 Import-Export Bank-Taiwan  
 J.C. Penney Company, Inc., Plano, Texas

John Peter Smith Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas  
Kaiser Permanente, Dallas, Texas  
National Science Foundation, Washington, DC  
North Texas Commission, Irving, Texas  
North Texas Council of Governments, Arlington, Texas  
World Bank, Washington, DC  
Metro Group, Richardson, Texas, Metropolitan YMCA of Dallas, Texas  
Patton, Boggs and Blow Law Firm, Washington, DC  
Southwest Region, Chamber of Commerce, Dallas, Texas