



COPRA Accreditation Actions 2022

COPRA ACTION STATEMENT

August 16, 2022

The Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) met on June 7-9, 2022 and issued accreditation actions for the 2021-2022 Cohort. Final accreditation actions are published on an annual basis. Programs receiving initial accreditation (through 2029) or five-, six- or seven-year reaccreditation decisions (through 2027, 2028 or 2029, respectively) demonstrated conformity with the [NASPAA Standards](#) after a thorough review by the Commission. The Commission bases its conclusion on the overall quality of the program, performance of its mission, consideration of substantial conformance with the Standards, and assessment of overall program quality given the unique mission of that program. Programs receiving initial accreditations and reaccreditations, including positive one-year reaccreditations, are included on the Roster of Accredited Programs, updated each year.

In June 2022, the Commission took the following actions:

INITIAL SEVEN YEAR ACCREDITATIONS			
University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Monitoring Standards
Duke University	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2029	Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
Northern Arizona University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
Pace University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy; Standard 7.1: Communications
Universidad Iberoamericana	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.2: Performance Expectations; Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
University of Guam	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
University of Houston, Hobby School	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2029	None

SEVEN* YEAR REACCREDITATIONS

(*5 or 6 years if voluntary delays, deferred site visits, and/or one-year reaccreditations were in effect)

University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Monitoring Standards
Augusta University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
Baruch College, CUNY	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
Bowling Green State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
California State University, Los Angeles	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
College of Charleston	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	None
East Carolina University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
Eastern Washington University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy; Standard 7.1: Communications
Florida Atlantic University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	None
Georgia State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
Indiana University, Bloomington	Master of Public Affairs	August 31, 2028*	Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance
Jacksonville State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2027*	None
James Madison University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2027*	None
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
Kent State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	Standard 3.1: Faculty Qualifications; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies; Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy
Marist College	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
Morehead State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2027*	None

SEVEN* YEAR REACCREDITATIONS

(*5 or 6 years if voluntary delays, deferred site visits, and/or one-year reaccreditations were in effect)

University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Monitoring Standards
Nova Southeastern University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.1: Mission Statement; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.3: Support for Students; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity
Oakland University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy
San Diego State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	None
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity; Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy
The American University in Cairo	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.2: Performance Expectations; Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.2: Student Admission; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies; Standard 7.1: Communications
The American University in Cairo	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.2: Performance Expectations; Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.2: Student Admission; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies; Standard 7.1: Communications
The George Washington University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None
The George Washington University	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2029	None
The University of Georgia	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity
The University of Texas at Austin	Master of Public Affairs	August 31, 2028*	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation
Tsinghua University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	None

SEVEN* YEAR REACCREDITATIONS

(*5 or 6 years if voluntary delays, deferred site visits, and/or one-year reaccreditations were in effect)

University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Monitoring Standards
University of Missouri-St. Louis	Master of Public Policy Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity
University of Pittsburgh	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	Standard 1.2: Performance Expectations; Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
West Chester University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation
West Virginia University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029	None

ONE-YEAR REACCREDITATIONS

(with non-conformities COPRA deems remediable within one year)

University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Cited Standards
Arkansas State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2023	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 2.1: Administrative Capacity; Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.3: Support for Students; Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy

DEFERRALS

University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Cited Standards
SUNY Buffalo State	Master of Public and Nonprofit Administration	n/a	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies

DENIALS			
University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Cited Standards
Kentucky State University	Master of Public Administration	n/a	Standard 1.1: Mission Statement; Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 4.2: Student Admission; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies; Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy

WITHDRAWALS		
University	Program	Accreditation Expiration
Washington State University	Master of Public Affairs	December 31, 2021
University of Pittsburgh	Master Of International Development	August 31, 2022
University of Pittsburgh	Master of Public and International Affairs	Effective August 31, 2022

A program receiving **accreditation** or **reaccreditation** has demonstrated substantial conformance with the [NASPAA Standards](#), based on the Commission’s conclusion on the overall quality of the program, its performance of its mission, consideration of substantial conformance with the standards, and its assessment of overall program quality given the unique mission of that program. In some cases, programs earning accreditation may be subject to monitoring on specific standards (**Monitoring Standards**). A program may be monitored on a specific standard(s) when the Commission deems that the program is in overall conformance, yet needs improvement in a specific conformance area, or the Commission wishes to follow the implementation of a new practice. Programs are required to report back to the Commission via annual reports with updates on the specific standards being monitored.

A currently accredited program receiving a **one-year reaccreditation** has been determined to have specific non-conformities with the Standards that can be resolved within one calendar year. Those programs granted a one-year reaccreditation will be required to submit a response to the decision letter addressing the nonconformities when the program re-enters the immediate next cycle.

A program receiving a **deferral** decision has been determined to have specific non-conformities with the standards that can be resolved within one or two calendar years, but which preclude immediate inclusion on the Annual Roster of Accredited Programs.

A program receiving a **denial** of accreditation has not demonstrated conformance with the NASPAA Standards. Programs receiving denials of accreditation may appeal the decision based on the grounds that:

- COPRA’s decision was arbitrary, capricious, or not supported by substantial evidence in the record on which the Commission took action, or
- the procedures used to reach the decision were contrary to published COPRA Policies and Procedures, or other established practices, and the procedural error prejudiced the Commission’s consideration of the program application.

If an accredited program chooses not to enter its regularly scheduled review cycle, the Commission will **withdraw** its accreditation status, effective either at the expiration of its regular term or at the due date for its next annual review, whichever is sooner.

COPRA has a rigorous, [multilevel process](#) for making accreditation and reaccreditation decisions. The process includes a self-study report, interim communication with COPRA, and a site visit by a team of peers. COPRA’s multi-step process provides the checks and balances necessary to ensure fair and accurate decisions. During the 2020-2021 review year, all programs COPRA recommended to proceed to site visit were given the option to either host their visit online or postpone the site visit to the following review year. By putting the decision in the hands of programs, COPRA gave each program the ability to be responsive to the needs of its community. COPRA has used every piece of the review process to ensure the quality of programs, consistency in the review process, and fairness in decision making.