

COPRA Accreditation Actions 2023

COPRA ACTION STATEMENT

July 14, 2023

The Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) met on June 13-15, 2023 and issued accreditation actions for the 2022-2023 Cohort. Final accreditation actions are published on an annual basis. Programs receiving initial accreditation (through 2030) or five-, six- or seven-year reaccreditation decisions (through 2028, 2029 or 2030, 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 2023, the Commission took the following actions:

INITIAL SEVEN YEAR ACCREDITATIONS			
University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Monitoring Standards
Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), Rio de Janeiro	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
Nazarbayev University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
Nazarbayev University	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2030	None
Sun Yat-sen University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
University of Northern Iowa	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2030	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
American University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
American University	Master of Public Policy	August 31, 2030	None
American University	Key Executive Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
Arkansas State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029*	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 2.1: Administrative Capacity; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity
Bridgewater State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity
California State University, Dominguez Hills	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity
California State University, Long Beach	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 3.1: Faculty Qualifications
Georgia College & State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity
Grand Valley State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 1.1: Mission Statement; Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
Long Island University, Brooklyn	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
Penn State Harrisburg	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029*	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity
Savannah State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity

Texas Tech University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029*	Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
The New School	Master of Science in Public and Urban Policy	August 31, 2029*	None
The Ohio State University	Master of Arts in Public Policy and Management	August 31, 2029*	None
The Ohio State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2029*	None
The University of Alabama at Birmingham	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
The University of Arizona	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation
The University of Kansas	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
The University of Memphis	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation
University at Albany, SUNY	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy
University of Arkansas at Little Rock	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
University of Illinois at Springfield	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	None
University of Washington	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2028*	None
Western Kentucky University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
Wichita State University	Master of Public Administration	August 31, 2030	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity

Willamette University	Master of Business Administration for Business, Government and Not-for-Profit Management	August 31, 2030	Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies
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ONE-YEAR REACCREDITATIONS

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

University	Program	Accreditation Expiration	Cited Standards
Minnesota State University, Mankato	Master of Arts in Public Administration and Community Management	August 31, 2024	Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation; Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity; Standard 4.1: Student Recruitment; Standard 4.3: Support for Students; Standard 4.4: Student Diversity; Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies;

WITHDRAWALS

University	Program	Accreditation Expiration
DePaul University	Master of Science in Public Service Management	Effective August 31, 2023
Florida Gulf Coast University	Master of Public Administration	Effective August 31, 2023
Long Island University - Post	Master of Public Administration	Effective December 31, 2022
Naval Postgraduate School	Master of Science in Management	Effective August 31, 2023
Naval Postgraduate School	Defense-Focused Master of Business Administration	Effective December 31, 2023
Victoria University of Wellington	Master of Public Management	Effective August 31, 2022
Victoria University of Wellington	Master of Public Policy	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. 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.