

West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Doctor of Public Administration University
Supplemental Application for Admission

In order to select students who have the greatest commitment to and potential for graduate studies at the doctoral level, the faculty of the DPA program have decided to ask some additional questions of applicants. Please take great care to ensure that your answers are expressive, thoughtful, and meaningful but also kept brief (roughly 250 words each but feel free to submit longer answers if you'd like).

1. Describe your career orientation and plans, and how a Doctor of Public Administration degree will contribute to your ability to achieve your objectives.

2. Please review the materials provided about the program and the curriculum. Identify which field/concentration option you intend to pursue, and why (it is okay to be undecided at this point). Describe in what area of public administration or public policy you expect to concentrate your capstone research (even if your description is highly speculative at this early point in your studies).

3. Discuss any Public Policy and Administration or Doctor of Public Administration course offerings you feel especially excited about taking.

4. Given your educational background, explain whether you believe we should waive any courses in the curriculum for you. If so, please describe (in narrative terms) the justification for this action, including a discussion on why your doctoral experience will not be impacted through a reduction in coursework. (Please note, WCU has an official transfer of credit procedure that you will need to initiate if admitted to the program).

4. Obtaining a doctorate degree is a long, difficult road. It requires a great deal of independent work, demanding that students be extremely self-directed, self-motivated, and disciplined. It requires students, over 2-3 years (sometimes longer) to devote numerous hours per week to complete course requirements and assignments. In fact, many exceptionally bright people entering doctorate programs fail to complete degrees. Tell us why you think you can do this. Be sure to discuss how you plan to balance the demands of your doctoral studies with your current personal and professional obligations.

5. The DPA program is offered via an online format. Please discuss your familiarity with online learning and technology. If you are not familiar with online learning, please discuss the steps you plan to take to be an active and successful online learner.

6. If you wish to apply for graduate assistantship, please do so by indicating your intentions here. Include a short description of your past work and educational experiences that have prepared you for a graduate assistantship. Assistantships generally require skills related collecting literature, data entry, data analysis, and academic writing. Graduate assistantship are made on the basis of

faculty need and student skillsets. *Please note: you should also indicate your interest in a graduate assistantship on your admission application.

PLEASE SEND REPOSSES BACK TO: GRADSTUDY@WCUPA.EDU