

The University of Michigan Law School  
Dual Degree Program

**Law & Public Policy  
JD/MPP**

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) is a degree designed primarily for persons seeking responsible policy and administrative positions in the public sector. The JD/MPP program is highly selective, admitting only three or four students a year. Students enrolled in the dual degree program will receive both an MPP from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy and a JD from the Law School upon completion of the graduation requirements of both schools. This can be done in approximately four years. Many Michigan JD/MPP students pursue the dual degree because of an interest in joining a governmental relations law practice or other policy-oriented organizations.

Students admitted to this dual degree program are required to earn credit in each school. Beyond the basic requirements, students generally are not restricted in their selection of courses in the Law School.

Students are required to take the complete sequence of first-year courses in one school during the first year of the dual program, and complete the sequence of first-year courses in the other school during the second year of the program. These two years are followed by two years of mixed enrollment. Each school will apply its own deferred admission standards to students who elect to take the first year in the other school.

**Basic Requirements for the JD**

Students entering the Law School must complete the required first-year law curriculum.

The JD requires a minimum total of 82 credits, earned between Law School courses and courses through the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy which is affiliated with the Rackham School of Graduate Studies. Students must earn at least 70 credits toward the JD through courses taken in the Law School.

Law students are required to complete a course in professional responsibility, transnational law, and an upper-class writing requirement.

Twelve (12) credit hours may be taken from the satisfaction of requirements for the MPP. Instructions for requesting Law School credit for non-law courses are posted on the CTools site for dual degree students.

**Basic Requirements for the MPP**

The MPP requires a total of 48 credit hours, 30 of which must be taken in the Ford School.

MPP students are expected to complete all MPP core courses (20 – 23 credits), including the Integrated Policy Exercise (IPE).

Public Policy students are required to complete a ten week (400 hour) summer internship after completing a year of coursework at the Ford School. The internship can be in the public, private, nonprofit, or international sector and work accomplished during the summer is expected to be policy-focused, challenging, and of significance and value to the sponsoring organization. Work should utilize the concepts and skills learned during the first year of study at the Ford School (e.g., policy analysis, public management, benefit-cost analysis, communication skills, etc.) Students should discuss the specific JD/MPP requirements regarding internship timing and expectations with Graduate Career Services and the academic advisor at the Law School.

Eighteen (18) credit hours may be taken from the satisfaction of requirements for the JD..

## **Additional Requirements**

Applicants must gain separate and independent admission to both the Law School and the Ford School, affiliated with the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, and should contact the admissions office of each school for application and admission information. The applicant's LSAT score may be used in place of the GRE.\*

Students must satisfy the degree requirements of each school and should consult with advisors in each school for the precise graduation requirements for each degree and for information about course offerings. Students should not expect any Law School courses beyond first-year courses to be offered in the summer term. Students will not receive credit toward the JD for non-law coursework taken prior to matriculation at the Law School. Students should consult with the advisor at the Ford School concerning credit toward the MPP for Law coursework.

During the third and fourth years of the program, students are permitted to elect courses in both schools. Tuition will be assessed at either the Law School or the Graduate School rate, whichever is higher, when courses toward both degrees are taken in one term.

**At the beginning of their final year of study in the combined program, students should consult with their Rackham academic advisor and the Law School Registrar regarding forms that need to be completed prior to graduation. Also at this time, students should submit a Dual/Joint Degree Election Form (<http://www.rackham.umich.edu/downloads/oard/forms/dualjoint6010.pdf>) for approval from both the Law School and the Ford School of Public Policy. Students should review the completed sample forms on the CTools page prior to filling out the form. Students may also consult with the Office of Student Affairs if there are any questions regarding completion of this form.**

The combined degree is not open to those who have already earned either the JD or the MPP. Students who are registered in the first or second year at the Law School or the first year at the Ford School may apply for admission to the dual degree program.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **Law School Admissions application materials:**

Admissions Office  
University of Michigan Law School  
726 Oakland  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-3031  
734.764.0537  
Email: [law.jd.admissions@umich.edu](mailto:law.jd.admissions@umich.edu)  
Web Site: [www.law.umich.edu](http://www.law.umich.edu)

### **Law School Dual Degree Programs:**

Office of Student Affairs  
University of Michigan Law School  
307 Hutchins Hall  
625 South State Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1215  
734.615.0019  
Email: [law.dual.degrees@umich.edu](mailto:law.dual.degrees@umich.edu)

### **Ford School application materials and admission/registration information:**

The Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy  
Student and Academic Services  
2245 Weill Hall  
735 South Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-3091  
734.764.0453  
Email: [fspp-admissions@umich.edu](mailto:fspp-admissions@umich.edu)  
Web Site: [www.fordschool.umich.edu](http://www.fordschool.umich.edu)

\* Information contained herein is valid as of 8/19/09 and is subject to change. Contact with the appropriate admissions office is advised.