Minimum Application Requirements

The requirement for an application to GPPA is a minimum ACT score of 28 or SAT score of 124 and rank in the top 15% of the applicant’s graduating high school class. Admission to GPPA is competitive, based on each professional program's requirements for ACT or SAT score, high school percentile rank, preparatory course work, and other criteria. As a GPPA undergraduate student, you will be expected to meet course and performance criteria specified by the professional program which may include: specific courses, special seminars and other activities, grade point average, and time for completion of requirements. Some programs also require periodic reviews and interviews to monitor your progress and certify your continued membership in GPPA.

Conditions of Acceptance and Continued Participation in GPPA:

Membership in the UIC Honors College is strongly recommended, but not required. The Honors College Program offers GPPA students intellectual challenges that will help them prepare for the rigors of graduate studies through focused individualized work on independent projects.

Students must maintain a 3.5 (A = 4.0) grade point average in all major courses as well as their UIC curriculum grade point average for continuation in GPPA and advancement into the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs. GPPA students must also complete all major courses in their curriculum and meet the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Urban and Public Affairs.

Students must maintain a full-time course load each semester (minimum of 12 semester hours of graded [A-F] credits each semester) and complete their undergraduate degree program within five years from the first term of official registration in the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs.

GPPA students will have a faculty advisor who will guide and prepare them for professional studies. Students will be required to meet with their faculty advisor every semester for professional mentoring, course selections, and evaluation of academic progress in their chosen area. This advising will be of particular importance in the preparation of a senior capstone project that is at a high level of professional competence, and must be submitted and approved during the application process for the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs.

Students in the Bachelor of Arts in the Urban and Public Affairs program who are interested in being considered for financial aid awards through the Master of Urban
Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs must maintain a 3.5 (A=4.0) during the last two years of undergraduate study and are required to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). A statement of professional intent and three letters of recommendation are required for both the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs.

Students may request a deferral of one year for entry into the Master of Urban Planning and Policy or the Master of Public Administration graduate degree programs through a written request approved by the graduate degree program. Upon satisfactory completion of all program requirements a seat will be reserved in the student's program of choice at the Masters level.