



CSUN[®]

CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHRIDGE

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN

PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT

A degree-completion program designed for working professionals

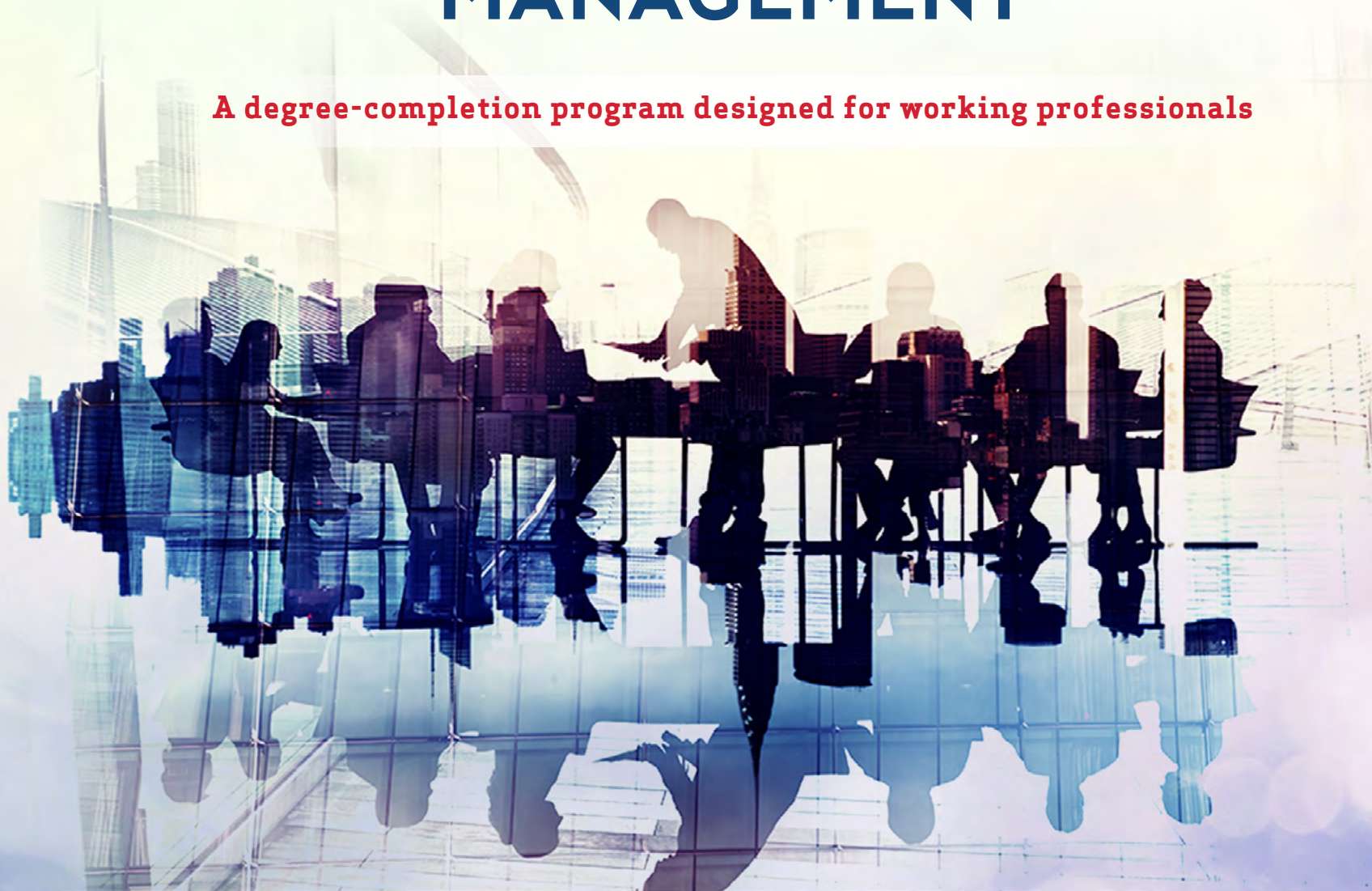




Table of Contents

[Program Overview](#)

[Why Choose This Program?](#)

[Distinction in Accreditation](#)

[Program Features](#)

[CSUN: A Leader in Online Graduate Education](#)

[Curriculum](#)

[Course Highlights](#)

[Distinguished Faculty](#)

[Supporting the Educational Success of Midcareer Professionals](#)

[Admission to the Program](#)

[Contact Us](#)



CSUN's PSM program has been recognized with an "Outstanding Program Award" from the University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA), a national organization that promotes excellence in higher education.

Program Overview

Designed for working professionals who have completed their lower-division General Education (GE) requirements, this program is offered in collaboration with the university's Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communication; David Nazarian College of Business and Economics; and College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

CSUN's 60-unit Bachelor's degree completion in Public Sector Management (PSM) program takes approximately two and a half years to complete and prepares graduates for career advancement by developing and refining their competencies in the following areas:

- Effective written and oral communication,
- Leadership, management and staff development,
- Problem solving and decision making,
- Critical thinking,
- Team building, and
- Budgeting and fiscal management.

Watch:

**Public Sector
Management
at CSUN**



Why Choose This Program?

- Taught by distinguished public-sector management professionals, CSUN's bachelor's degree completion in PSM provides an essential knowledge base for career development and advancement in today's fast-paced public-sector environment.
- This program prepares students to address managerial and administrative challenges skillfully and successfully in public-sector organizations of all sizes and kinds.
- 100% guaranteed enrollment in all courses.
- Students can maintain their personal and professional responsibilities while completing their degree.
- Cohort format encourages networking among peers and faculty members within the public sector.
- Offered fully online.

Distinction in Accreditation

California State University, Northridge is accredited by The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), a regional institutional accrediting body, recognized by the U.S. Council of Higher Education and Accreditation. In 2012, the WASC Commission stated, "The Commission commends CSUN for becoming a model learning organization characterized by collaborative and evidence-based planning, decision making and problem solving. Among its accomplishments during this review are its deep understanding of the characteristics and needs of CSUN students, which has led to programs and activities that promote student success. As noted by the team, the foundation at CSUN could not be stronger." Visit the [University Accreditation](#) web page for more information.

"Working 40+ hours a week it was difficult to attend college full-time. This program made it much easier and provided me with all the tools to graduate in a timely manner."

*Kathryn English
Chief Business Official
Pleasant Valley School District*





"Convenience, cost and curriculum. Completing the Public Sector Management program motivated me to pursue my MPA with CSUN, and now I'll be graduating with my masters Spring 2016. This has been the best thing I could have done for myself."

*Mayra Gonzalez
Assignment Technician
Los Angeles Unified School District*



Program Features Designed to Meet the Needs of Working Professionals

- **Delivery modes** – for the convenience of working adults, this program is delivered fully online.
- **Work-friendly scheduling** – Students take courses at a pace that enables them to meet their professional and personal responsibilities while completing their B.A. degree.
- **A community of peers** – Students enter and progress through the course of study as a group or cohort. CSUN's cohort format not only ensures on-time completion and maximizes interaction with faculty but also encourages the development of valuable professional relationships among classmates who share similar career interests and goals.
- **Group activities** – Weekly group sessions provide opportunities for student interaction in "real time."
- **Structured learning** – Scheduled assignments, activities and due dates make planning and time management easier for working adults.
- **Exceptional support services** – including the personal assistance of a program coordinator whose attention to program-related administrative matters frees students to focus on their studies and careers.
- **Federal financial aid** – Many of our students access financial aid to help pay for their education. A team of financial-aid specialists dedicated specifically to our professional students is available to help process applications and distribute funding for those who qualify.



Each year, CSUN's online programs receive national recognition for their innovative curriculum, instruction and methods.



CSUN: A Leader in Online Graduate Education

CSUN is a model institution for cultural diversity and rigorous scholarship in Greater Los Angeles and beyond. Here, students combine academic pursuits with hands-on experience to assemble the robust skills needed to thrive in today's global economy.

Each year, CSUN's online programs receive national recognition for their innovative curriculum, instruction and methods. All online curriculum is designed by the same distinguished faculty and leading practitioners as on-campus programs. This approach ensures that each course, whether on-campus or online, is held to the same high standards of academic excellence and student achievement.

CSUN's award-winning online programs are developed through a strong collaboration between faculty, instructional design teams and technical professionals. This partnership creates an engaged online learning community and adds enormous flexibility to the demanding personal and professional lives of participants.

Faculty receive individualized training and ongoing support to ensure smooth and effective use of online educational technology. CSUN's professional distance-learning staff also provides training and start-to-finish technical support to students in online degree programs.

Education-technology specialists, assigned to each online program and cohort, develop strong working relationships with those enrolled. This real-world support comes from actual people on the CSUN campus, and not just at a "virtual help desk," who remain fully committed to student success from day one until graduation.

Alumni

CSUN alumni create a network of connections in California, across the nation, and around the globe. When choosing a university, it is useful to know that others who have earned their degree at that university have achieved success and often rise to leading roles in their chosen fields. Graduating from CSUN will make you a part of an extensive network of over 200,000 alumni that will build relationships for continued professional success.

Advantages of the Carefully Crafted Curriculum

CSUN's Public Sector Management degree features a carefully crafted curriculum, specifically designed to meet the career-development needs of current or aspiring public-sector professionals. The faculty, working as a creative team with leading practitioners, develop programs in a cohort format. Faculty look at the program as an educational whole from start to finish to ensure the educational experience is powerful, comprehensive, and focused on the essentials that will lead to success in public sectors after graduation.

REQUIRED COURSES (48 units)

COMS 309		Advanced Public Speaking (3)*
COMS 323		Group Communication (3)*
COMS 356		Intercultural Communication (3) or
SOC 307		Ethnic Diversity in America (3)*
COMS 454		Communication and Technology (3)
COMS 494/L		Internship in Communication Studies and Lab (1/2)
POLS 360		Public Administration (3)
POLS 361		Introduction to Public Policy (3)
POLS 406		Fundamentals of Policy Analysis (3)
POLS 407		Policy Implementation and Program Evaluation (3)
POLS 462		Ethics in Politics and Administration (3)
POLS 466		Politics of Public Spending (3)
SBS 320		Social Science Research Methods (3)

TYPICAL ELECTIVE COURSES OFFERED RECENTLY (12 units)

Elective courses are pre-selected for each cohort.

POLS 380		Los Angeles: Past, Present, Future (3)
URBS 310		Growth and Sustainable Development of Cities (3)
POLS 403		State and Local Government (3)
SOC 400		Organizational Theory (3)
SOC 350		Population Dynamics (3)
SOC 356		Social Welfare Institutions (3)
SOC 401		Class, Status and Power (3)
SOC 426		Social Legislation and Social Policy (3)

* Courses that are also Upper Division General Education.

The program coordinator assigned to each cohort works with students from the point of application through graduation.

Application of Coursework

Courses are designed to integrate analytical and conceptual knowledge of public-sector management with pragmatic applications that culminate with an internship or field-study experience. Toward the end of their coursework, students intern or perform field studies for public-sector agencies in order to apply what they have learned. Though many students are already working in the public sector, this internship/field-study experience provides new opportunities to apply recently acquired and/or expanded analytical, evaluation and management skills within an agency setting.

Course content creates an integrated program in a planned sequence.

Course Highlights

COMS 309 | Advanced Public Speaking

Applies principles of audience analysis to the preparation, presentation and evaluation of persuasive messages.

COMS 321 | Rhetorical Discourse

Study of the language and principles of human communication through the production, analysis and evaluation of rhetorical messages.

COMS 323 | Group Communication

Studies principles and methods of small group communication. Develops individual and group skills through application of theory to practice. Emphasis is on intra-group behavior.

COMS 356 | Intercultural Communication

Cultural factors in interpersonal communication, such a perception, roles, language codes and non-verbal communication. Students will apply and evaluate theories of intercultural communication.

COMS 454 | Communication and Technology

The study of the impact of new communication technologies on interpersonal communication patterns. Emphasis is placed on implementation of technology in organizational settings.

COMS 494/L | Internship in Communication Studies and Lab

Practical experience dealing with communication problems and concerns in public or private organizations.

POLS 360 | Public Administration

Analysis of the executive function in governmental processes together with a survey of the principles of administrative organization, personnel management, financial administration, and public relations. Problems and trends in government service as a career are discussed.

POLS 361 | Introduction to Public Policy

Introduces the student to public policy approaches, contexts, processes and outcomes.

POLS 380 | Los Angeles: Past, Present, Future

Multidisciplinary investigation of the Los Angeles urban area – its patterns of population and resources distribution; its historical, economic, social and cultural developments; and policies models designed to cope with its problems and to develop its potential as an ethnically diverse metropolis on the Pacific Rim.

POLS 403 | State and Local Government

Study of the political, administrative, and judicial systems of states, counties, cities, and special districts. Intergovernmental relations, functions, trends and current problems.

POLS 404 | Urban Politics

Study of the structures and processes that determine public priorities and programs in urban areas.

POLS 406 | Fundamentals of Policy Analysis

A systematic and critical approach to designing public policies. Integrates theory and social science techniques so students may apply the methods, models and tools of policy analysis to particular cases and problems that confront policy makers.

POLS 407 | Policy Implementation and Program Evaluation

Provides an overview of policy implementation and program evaluation, by looking at the strategies, the techniques and tools used most frequently by policy makers and evaluators. Students will be introduced to major theories and applications so they can assess projects and programs in terms of impact, process and cost.

POLS 441 | Interest Groups

Study of the tactics and aims of interest groups in their efforts to mold public opinion and to influence legislators, executives, judges and administrators.

POLS 443 | The Legislative Process

Detailed analysis of the structure, operations and activities of legislative bodies, including Congress, state legislatures and municipal councils.

POLS 462 | Ethics in Politics and Administration

Examines the various kinds of ethical problems faced by elected and non-elected government personnel. Focuses on the scope and limits of individual responsibility in the practice of politics and the management of public organizations.

POLS 466 | Politics of Public Spending

Critical analysis of how government financial policies are formulated and controlled within a context of conflicting views and interests. Examines the influence of the system of checks and balances, the effects of cooperation among chief executives, administrators, budget bureaus, legislators, pressure groups, and the general public, and the impact of government spending on the private economy.

SBS 320 | Social Science Research Methods

Study of principles and techniques used to design and evaluate social scientific research. Course includes discussion of data collection, statistical analysis, and interpretation.

SOC 305 | Culture and Personality

Cross-cultural study of the development of individual personality in the socio-cultural milieu. Special attention is given to child-rearing practices, social personality, social character, mental health and illness, and deviant behavior in several Western and non-Western societies.

SOC 307 | Ethnic Diversity in American Society

Describes and analyzes contemporary, changing ethnic cultures and lifestyles in American society. Focused analysis of ethnic cultures/lifestyles by social class, family form, sex role and orientation, age grouping and influences of social movements and popular culture.

SOC 325 | Sex Roles and Work

Examination of current research on women in the labor force in U.S. and other industrial societies, including the impact of affirmative action programs, changes in structure and function of industrial labor forces, and projections of future roles of women and men in the labor force.

SOC 340 | Sociology of Work

Analysis of the structural context of work in contemporary society, including preparation for access to different positions within the occupational structure. Study of work settings, including formal and informal characteristics, changes in the structure of work and case histories involving work experiences and occupational subcultures.

SOC 350 | Population Dynamics

Analysis of the nature, causes and consequences of major world population trends as they are related to urban studies, medical sociology and ecology. Studies fertility, mortality and migration; sex ratios; race and ethnic composition; marital, educational and occupational status; and census and vital statistics.

SOC 355 | Criminology

Nature of crime, causal factors of criminal behavior and group control of the crime problem.

SOC 356 | Social Welfare Institutions

Exploration of social welfare institutions as one of the basic institutions in contemporary society. Examines varied political and social ideologies that contribute to the development of social welfare institutions, programs, and policies.

SOC 390 | Race Relations

Study of diverse racial and ethnic groups, including Latino, Chicano, Asian, Black and American Indian, with a focus on the contemporary American scene. Status distinctions, migration and settlement patterns, segregation, integration, assimilation, prejudice, discrimination, economic and political factors, social movements, and interaction patterns both within and between these groups and their effects upon American life are studied.

SOC 400 | Organizational Theory

Study of contemporary sociological theories of organizational dynamics and behavior. Analysis of the social structural and interactional dynamics of organizational settings.

SOC 401 | Class, Status and Power

Analysis of the distribution of wealth, prestige and power. Study of the causes of poverty, life chances of the poor, lifestyles of the wealthy, upward and downward mobility, and class and group conflict in society.

SOC 410 | Urban Sociology

Worldwide processes of urbanization, both historical and contemporary. Theoretical approaches and research and their implications for urban policy and change. Focuses on social structure, social differentiation and lifestyles found within a metropolitan area and in diverse metropolitan areas and their implications.

SOC 418 | Gender and Crime

Focuses on the influence of gender structures and gender interactions on criminal perpetration, victimization, and societal responses to crime. Includes a focus on women as victims and perpetrators of crime as well as discussion of how gender impacts men's experiences with offending and victimization. Critically examines societal stereotypes about gender and the impact on societal approaches to crime.

SOC 426 | Social Legislation and Social Policy

Study of the historical, social, and political aspects related to the development of social policies.

SOC 440 | Sociology of Aging

Analysis of aging in its social and social-psychological aspects throughout the lifespan. Emphasis on particular social problems of the elderly, including retirement, widowhood, suicide, housing, income maintenance, attitudes toward death and dying and more.

SOC 474 | Corrections

Offers sociological criminological examination of the field of corrections, both substantively and critically. Includes patterns and trends in incarceration rates; police and judicial processes resulting in incarceration; climate and culture of correctional facilities; and gender and diversity in corrections and community-based corrections, including probation, parole, halfway houses and community-based treatment programs.

URBS 310 | Growth and Sustainable Development of Cities

Examination of the forces contributing to the form, structure and sustainable development of cities. Emphasis on urban areas of the U.S.

URBS 420 | Communities, Neighborhoods and Planning

Study of human behavior as it is affected by basic human needs and urban environmental conditions, and an examination of alternative strategies for restructuring social institutions and social behavior.

URBS 430 | Planning in the Public Sector

Analysis of public and private institutions through which modern urban society functions, with emphasis on the structure and functions of cities from the perspective of their organizational life.



Workers with a bachelor's degree on average earn well over \$1 million more than high school graduates during their working lives, while those with an associate's degree earn about \$325,000 more.

Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Current Issues in Economics and Finance.



Distinguished Faculty

The quality of the faculty and its commitment to teaching midcareer professionals are first and foremost. Exceptional scholars join the CSUN faculty because they value teaching.

With many providers of education flooding the market today, someone considering finishing a baccalaureate may have difficulty making the right choice. The faculty's combination of traditional scholarship and applied research puts CSUN in a position to offer midcareer professionals the advantage of advanced education rooted in the realities of practice and the challenges facing professionals and organizations today.

Faculty and practitioners confer to structure the curriculum in a way that gives students multiple perspectives, including new knowledge in the field, integrating experience into their education, and preparing them for advanced roles in their professions and thought leaders in their fields. Faculty bios can be read on the [Faculty web page](#).

Lori Ann Campbell

Assistant Professor
Sociology, CSUN

Joseph C. De Ladurantey

Adjunct Professor
Public Administration, CSUN

Robert B. Kent

Professor
Urban Studies and Planning, CSUN

Paul Krivonos

Emeritus Professor,
Communication Studies, CSUN

Lauren McDonald

Associate Professor
Sociology, CSUN

Karen Morgaine

Associate Professor
Sociology, CSUN

Boris Ricks

Associate Professor
Political Science, CSUN

Martin Saiz

Professor
Political Science, CSUN

Lawrence Sandy-Bailey

Associate Professor
Political Science, CSUN

John Yudelson

Professor
Business, CSUN



"Great program! The professors care about your education and help you achieve your goals. CSUN offers programs for working adults recognizing the need of students."

Donna Kumar
Parent-Student Lead Coordinator
Ingenium Schools



The Advantages of CSUN's Approach to Supporting the Educational Success of Working Professionals

Starting a degree program is a big step, but – for working adults – the real value is in completing the program. That is why CSUN focuses on providing the outstanding student support services that ensure participants meet their educational goals and succeed in graduating. We recognize that midcareer professionals undertaking advanced professional education need to focus on their academic work to be successful in the program. This recognition prompted the development of a level of support services rare among public universities.

Students should not have to spend time trying to figure out and navigate the university's administrative systems. With that in mind, the program coordinator assigned to each cohort works with students from the point of application through graduation. This practice ensures that each student will have direct personal support with a specific person to email or call with any questions or concerns at any time during the program. Each program coordinator is also a proactive part of the cohort experience, providing ongoing information, regular reminders and consistent encouragement.

Each degree program also has an assigned academic lead. This is a faculty member with specific responsibilities for coordinating the work of the faculty teaching in the program and responding to academic questions students may have that go beyond the scope of an individual course. Participants in each cohort know their academic lead well and can take advantage of this resource for guidance whenever they face an academic challenge.

With this approach, CSUN graduate programs are proud to have achieved high graduation rates with some cohorts reaching up to 90%.

CSUN graduate programs are proud to have achieved high graduation rates with some cohorts reaching up to 90%.



For More Information

(818) 210-3063

programs@csun.edu

Learn More

Admission to the Public Sector Management program

To be considered for admission, applicants must have completed at least 60 transferable semester (90 quarter) units of college coursework with a grade point average of 2.0 or higher, and a grade of C or better in each course used to meet the CSU General Education Basic Skills requirement, consisting of 3 units each in the areas of: 1) written communication, 2) oral communication, 3) critical thinking, and 4) mathematics/quantitative reasoning;

Review [Admission Guidelines for Bachelor Degree Completion Programs](#) for more detailed information.

Students with Associate Degree for Transfer from a California Community College

If you have completed your approved Associate Degree for Transfer (AD-T) from a California community college, you are eligible for admission to the Bachelor degree-completion in Public Sector Management (PSM) program.

If you are attending or have attended community college out of state, please refer to [Admission Guidelines for Bachelor Degree Completion Programs](#) for more detailed information.

Previously Disqualified Students

Students must have GE Basics Subjects complete and they must complete a minimum of 6 academic units following their last disqualification with a cumulative GPA of 2.00. They must complete a questionnaire, submit transcripts showing the successful completion of units after being previously disqualified and must reapply to Tseng College.

[Apply Returning to CSUN](#)

Do not fill out a Cal State Apply application. Students only need to fill out a Tseng College application for the PSM program and submit the Previously Disqualified Questionnaire to the Office of Admissions and Records before the deadline on the form.

For more information, please visit [Admission Requirements](#) web page.