

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MPA

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Public Affairs Careers

Career development is an integral part of the La Follette School experience, and data show extremely high percentages of employment three to six months post-graduation. The La Follette School offers:

- Visits with local employers, as well as trips focused on local, regional, and federal careers;
- Networking opportunities;
- Career development seminars with public affairs professionals; and
- Connections with alumni mentors.

The Director of Career and Employer Services works with students one-on-one to develop essential skills, such as interviewing, writing strong cover letters and resumes, and researching internships and permanent employment. During the first-semester course Professional Development Workshop (<https://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/degree-programs/courses/pa-800-professional-development-workshop/>), students also create an individual plan and portfolio that help them proactively move toward their academic and career goals.

La Follette School alumni work in all levels of government, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector. Popular positions include policy analyst, consultant, executive director, research analyst, project manager, and government liaison. MPA alumni have held positions with these agencies, organizations, and businesses:

- Congressional Research Service
- Deloitte
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Guidehouse
- Invenergy LLC
- Kids Forward
- Mathematica Policy Research
- National Council on Crime and Delinquency
- U.S. Government Accountability Office
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau

Please refer to the Career Development (<https://www.lafollette.wisc.edu/career-development/>) section of the La Follette School website for more information.