

MPA Work & Extracurricular Activities Policy

First-year MPA students are strongly encouraged to make school and the accompanying team work a priority in their lives. Because so many good things clamor for one's time and attention, each student is asked to consider and set reasonable boundaries around other extracurricular activities that could detract from one's learning and commitment to the program. To help maintain balance students are discouraged from working during the first year in the program. This caution applies not only to working, but to all extra activities such as Grantwell or Marriott-on-Board, taking a leadership role in a campus club or organization, or even taking extra classes.

Each incoming student is asked to email the Associate Director (clc@byu.edu) and indicate whether or not they are working, planning on working, or are committed to other extracurricular activities. Students who choose to work or be involved in extra activities must have extremely flexible schedules. School work and team work **MUST** take priority over activities outside the program. It is suggested students commit no more than approximately ten hours per week to extracurricular activities, because school requirements typically require 50-60 hours a week. Because of the program commitment to the team concept, time for team work is a high priority. Required times for team meetings are built into the schedule the first semester.

Students are encouraged to make wise decisions about balancing their time so that they are fair to themselves and their teammates, and don't "run faster than they have strength." ([Mosiah 4:27](#), [D&C 10:4](#))

Second-year MPA students, are encouraged to work. Many will be employed as teaching or research assistants for professors, working about 10 hours per week. Others will continue employment with their summer internship. The recommendation is that all work be relevant and provide the best possible preparation for a career in public or nonprofit service.