

# 2016 MPA Profile



## Hire the BYU Advantage Strong Work Ethic

“BYU graduates have consistently demonstrated both a wide-ranging skill set and a strong work ethic that have greatly benefitted our organization. Each time we hire an MPA student from the Romney Institute at BYU, we know we’re getting someone who is trustworthy, eager to learn, and willing to go the extra mile to get the job done. The Romney Institute does an excellent job of preparing students to succeed in their careers.”

ED BELMARES  
Assistant City Manager, City of San Antonio

## THE BYU ADVANTAGE

Are you looking for master of public administration (MPA) students who are a cut above the rest? Are you looking for service-oriented MPAs with maturity, character, and strong teamwork skills? If so, we’re here to help you hire the BYU advantage. Recruiters from government, nonprofit, and private organizations keep coming back to BYU where they find a diverse group of MPAs who exhibit these core strengths.

**1) Service Orientation:** The mission of the MPA program is to prepare leaders of exceptional capability and integrity who are committed to serving their communities and improving public service organizations. Former Arizona Deputy Auditor General Bill Thomson adds, “BYU graduates are well trained, work well in a team environment, and have a commitment to public service.”

**2) Character:** The shared values of the Marriott School, BYU, and its sponsoring institution help instill strong character in our students. We build on these values with a required study of professional ethics from some of the leading experts in the field. Graduates of the Marriott School are widely recognized among employers for their integrity and ethics.

**3) Collaboration & Teamwork:** Everything about the BYU MPA experience involves collaboration between students, faculty, and practitioners. Students are assigned to take on real-world projects from partnering organizations and provide analysis and executive reports. The process allows them to enter their careers with significant experience that gives them a step up on the competition.

**4) Diversity:** Each BYU MPA class is a diverse group of students with a wide range of talents. The class of 2016 is 51 percent female, 20 percent international, and 25 percent underrepresented minorities. It should also be noted that 78 percent are bilingual. This diverse experience leads to a feeling of inclusiveness among students. “The Marriott School is a great place to grow as a student,” says 2006 MPA grad Maria Pedroza. “The professors in the program foster an environment of support, creativity, and learning.”

**5) Hands-On:** The MPA program offers its students practical experience in a variety of ways. Many students complete an internship instead of a thesis and take fifty-seven credits to graduate. With a strong focus on applied projects and an emphasis on finance and analytical skills, students come out with real-world training and experience in application.

### CLASS PROFILES

COHORT	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
NUMBER ENROLLED	58	60	47	50	45
AVERAGE GRE	1194	1147	1128/310†	311†	309†
AVERAGE GPA	3.63	3.60	3.67	3.72	3.52
FEMALE	52%	52%	55%	51%	51%
INTERNATIONAL	9%	13%	11%	10%	20%
BILINGUAL	78%	58%	66%	61%	78%
UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITIES	14%	13%	21%	12%	25%

†GRE revised general test score scale

“My close exposure to one of your students and discussions with supervisors of the other two led me to believe that the previous comptroller general was right on in his assessment. Overall BYU MPA students are bright, willing to work hard, and interested in making a difference.”

Michael Motley, Director, Quality and Continuous Improvement, US Government Accountability Office

# MPA Recruiters

- Accenture (Anderson Consulting)
- Arizona Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budget
- Arizona Office of the Legislative Auditor General
- Art Institute of Salt Lake City
- Ashoka
- Revere Health
- Central Utah Clinic
- City of Casper, WY
- City of College Station, TX
- City of Gillette, WY
- City of Lehi, UT
- City of Mesa, AZ
- City of Pleasant Grove, UT
- City of River Falls, WI
- City of San Antonio, TX
- City of Veneta, OR
- Ensign Group, Administrative Department
- FDA
- FDIC
- Girl Scouts
- GOED
- Hawaii Reserves
- Headstart
- Hewlett-Packard
- Idaho State Tax Commission
- In Our Own Quiet Way
- Make-A-Wish Foundation
- Mercer
- Ogden Clinic
- Partnership for Public Service
- Red Cross
- Salt Lake City Corporation
- Sandia National Labs
- State of California
- Teach for America
- US General Services Administration
- United Way of Salt Lake
- Utah Department of Community and Culture
- Utah Department of Corrections
- Utah Governor's Budget Office
- Utah Office of the Legislative Auditor
- West Valley City
- Women for Decency
- YMCA

## MPA ACHIEVEMENTS

BYU MPAs manage the country's first student-led program that connects philanthropic donors with deserving nonprofit organizations. Established in 2008, the Grantwell program began with one client and \$5,000. The program now boasts two dozen clients, including the Walmart Foundation, Sorenson Legacy Foundation, and the Fredette Family Foundation. More than 250 graduate students have advised nearly \$30 million in giving. Word of the success has spread, and BYU professors are now preparing to teach other universities how to run the program.



For the past seven years a group of BYU MPA students has visited Ghana to carry out various studies and projects, often partnering with large NGOs such as the World Bank and the Millennium Challenge Corporation. A recent BYU MPA group visited eighteen villages in Ghana to determine where to most effectively place five power-producing merry-go-rounds. Students often stay beyond the scheduled dates of Ghana trips to do additional research and work.

BYU places students annually in the prestigious Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) program. This year one more MPA student from BYU was selected as a finalist. Run by the federal government's HR agency, PMF seeks outstanding men and women from a variety of academic disciplines who have excelled in the leadership and management of public policies and programs.



### AVERAGE STARTING SALARY BY INDUSTRY

CATEGORY	STARTING SALARY †
Federal	\$58,990
State	\$49,465
Local	\$48,593
Social/Nonprofit	\$48,375
Healthcare	\$50,000
Public/Private Partnership	\$55,000

† Average. Does not include moving allowances, additional guaranteed compensation, or stock options.

### PLACEMENT BY TRACK

