



**For Immediate Release**

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**NASPAA Accredits Two New Programs**

*Programs in Qatar and the United States join the growing roster of NASPAA accredited programs, at a pivotal time for public service education*

**Washington, DC, August 13, 2020** -- The Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration ([NASPAA](#)) announced that its Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation ([COPRA](#)) has accredited the following two programs for the first time:

- Master of Public Policy at Doha Institute for Graduate Studies (Qatar)
- Master of Science in Urban Policy and Leadership at Hunter College, CUNY (USA)

NASPAA is the global standard for public service education. Accredited programs share NASPAA's commitment to transparent, effective, inclusive, and ethical public service. The NASPAA Standards ensure programs promote public service values, bound in the pursuit of programmatic improvement and educational quality. Each of these programs underwent a years-long process of self-study, site visit, and peer review, during which they demonstrated their commitment to the knowledge, research, and practice of public service.

At a time when public servants at all levels are at the forefront of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in every corner of the world, NASPAA is proud to continue supporting programs in their commitment to quality assurance, to their students, and to the field. The addition of these new programs expands NASPAA accreditation to nine countries, increasing the capacity for global collaboration, including the sharing of best practices in pedagogy and institutional responses to the pandemic.

NASPAA Executive Director, Laurel McFarland, said of the newly accredited programs, "They are joining a network of shared practice and peer review that stretches back more than 4 decades. Our accreditation program has become a global, inclusive standard that is known around the world for its unique attention to public service values and holding schools accountable for students learning the things they need for careers in public service. The global challenge of the pandemic has made the need for capable public service leaders more critical than ever, and we salute all of our accredited programs that have been diligently educating their students through the uncertainty and stress. Our schools'

global aspiration and commitment to quality is today made stronger by the welcoming of our two newly accredited programs.”

NASPAA and COPRA would like to welcome these new programs and celebrate the achievement of their accreditation. Maja H. Holmes, COPRA Chair, stated, “There has never been a more significant time to support, engage, and highlight the important work of the community of NASPAA programs. The accreditation process and constellation of accredited programs reflect a commitment to the enduring values of public service that guide public and nonprofit professionals globally. I am heartened by the opportunity for NASPAA- accredited programs to be the leaders in preparing the next generation of public service professionals to build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions.”

The 2020-21 Roster of Accredited Programs can be viewed [here](#) after it is released on August 31, 2020.

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***NASPAA, the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration, is the global standard in public service education. It is the membership association of 328 schools of public policy, public affairs, public administration, and public & nonprofit management. NASPAA’s Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) is the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)- recognized accreditation body for graduate degree programs in public policy, administration, and affairs, globally. COPRA has accredited over 200 master’s degree programs from NASPAA member schools in these fields. NASPAA’s twofold mission is to promote excellence in education and training for public service and to promote the ideal of public service.***