

## COPRA Accreditation Actions 2023

### COPRA ACTION STATEMENT

### July 14, 2023

The Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation (COPRA) of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA) met on June 13-15, 2023 and issued accreditation actions for the 2022-2023 Cohort. Final accreditation actions are published on an annual basis. Programs receiving initial accreditation (through 2030) or five-, six- or seven-year reaccreditation decisions (through 2028, 2029 or 2030, respectively) demonstrated conformity with the [NASPAA Standards](#) after a thorough review by the Commission. The Commission bases its conclusion on the overall quality of the program, performance of its mission, consideration of substantial conformance with the Standards, and assessment of overall program quality given the unique mission of that program. Programs receiving initial accreditations and reaccreditations, including positive one-year reaccreditations, are included on the Roster of Accredited Programs, updated each year.

In June 2023, the Commission took the following actions:

| <b>INITIAL SEVEN YEAR ACCREDITATIONS</b>      |                                 |                                 |                             |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>University</b>                             | <b>Program</b>                  | <b>Accreditation Expiration</b> | <b>Monitoring Standards</b> |
| Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV), Rio de Janeiro | Master of Public Administration | August 31, 2030                 | None                        |
| Nazarbayev University                         | Master of Public Administration | August 31, 2030                 | None                        |
| Nazarbayev University                         | Master of Public Policy         | August 31, 2030                 | None                        |
| Sun Yat-sen University                        | Master of Public Administration | August 31, 2030                 | None                        |
| University of Northern Iowa                   | Master of Public Policy         | August 31, 2030                 | None                        |

**SEVEN\* YEAR REACCREDITATIONS**

(\*5 or 6 years if voluntary delays, deferred site visits, and/or one-year reaccreditations were in effect)

| <b>University</b>                            | <b>Program</b>                                | <b>Accreditation Expiration</b> | <b>Monitoring Standards</b>   |
|--|---|---------------------------------|---|
| American University                          | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | None  |
| American University                          | Master of Public Policy                       | August 31, 2030                 | None  |
| American University                          | Key Executive Master of Public Administration | August 31, 2030                 | None  |
| Arkansas State University                    | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2029*                | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 2.1: Administrative Capacity;<br>Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity          |
| Bridgewater State University                 | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity  |
| California State University, Dominguez Hills | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity   |
| California State University, Long Beach      | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 3.1: Faculty Qualifications   |
| Georgia College & State University           | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance;<br>Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity  |
| Grand Valley State University                | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | Standard 1.1: Mission Statement;<br>Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance;<br>Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies |
| Long Island University, Brooklyn             | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | None  |
| Penn State Harrisburg                        | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2029*                | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity  |
| Savannah State University                    | Master of Public Administration               | August 31, 2030                 | Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity   |

|   |  |                  |   |
|---|--|------------------|---|
| Texas Tech University                   | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2029* | Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity;<br>Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies   |
| The New School                          | Master of Science in Public and Urban Policy   | August 31, 2029* | None  |
| The Ohio State University               | Master of Arts in Public Policy and Management | August 31, 2029* | None  |
| The Ohio State University               | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2029* | None  |
| The University of Alabama at Birmingham | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | None  |
| The University of Arizona               | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity   |
| The University of Kansas                | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | None  |
| The University of Memphis               | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity   |
| University at Albany, SUNY              | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 6.1: Resource Adequacy   |
| University of Arkansas at Little Rock   | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2028* | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 2.2: Faculty Governance;<br>Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity;<br>Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies |
| University of Illinois at Springfield   | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | None  |
| University of Washington                | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2028* | None  |
| Western Kentucky University             | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies  |
| Wichita State University                | Master of Public Administration                | August 31, 2030  | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity  |

|                       |  |                 |   |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|---|
| Willamette University | Master of Business Administration for Business, Government and Not-for-Profit Management | August 31, 2030 | Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|---|

**ONE-YEAR REACCREDITATIONS**

(with non-conformities COPRA deems remediable within one year)

| <b>University</b>                   | <b>Program</b>   | <b>Accreditation Expiration</b> | <b>Cited Standards</b>   |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Minnesota State University, Mankato | Master of Arts in Public Administration and Community Management | August 31, 2024                 | Standard 1.3: Program Evaluation;<br>Standard 3.2: Faculty Diversity;<br>Standard 4.1: Student Recruitment;<br>Standard 4.3: Support for Students;<br>Standard 4.4: Student Diversity;<br>Standard 5.1: Universal Required Competencies; |

**WITHDRAWALS**

| <b>University</b>                 | <b>Program</b>                                    | <b>Accreditation Expiration</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| DePaul University                 | Master of Science in Public Service Management    | Effective August 31, 2023       |
| Florida Gulf Coast University     | Master of Public Administration                   | Effective August 31, 2023       |
| Long Island University - Post     | Master of Public Administration                   | Effective December 31, 2022     |
| Naval Postgraduate School         | Master of Science in Management                   | Effective August 31, 2023       |
| Naval Postgraduate School         | Defense-Focused Master of Business Administration | Effective December 31, 2023     |
| Victoria University of Wellington | Master of Public Management                       | Effective August 31, 2022       |
| Victoria University of Wellington | Master of Public Policy                           | Effective August 31, 2022       |

A program receiving **accreditation** or **reaccreditation** has demonstrated substantial conformance with the [NASPAA Standards](#), based on the Commission's conclusion on the overall quality of the program, its performance of its mission, consideration of substantial conformance with the standards, and its assessment of overall program quality given the unique mission of that program. In some cases, programs earning accreditation may be subject to monitoring on specific standards (**Monitoring Standards**). A program may be monitored on a specific standard(s) when the Commission deems that the program is in overall conformance, yet needs improvement in a specific conformance area, or the Commission wishes to follow the implementation of a new practice. Programs are required to report back to the Commission via annual reports with updates on the specific standards being monitored.

A currently accredited program receiving a **one-year reaccreditation** has been determined to have specific non-conformities with the Standards that can be resolved within one calendar year. Those programs granted a one year reaccreditation will be required to submit a response to the decision letter addressing the nonconformities when the program re-enters the immediate next cycle.

A program receiving a **deferral** decision has been determined to have specific non-conformities with the standards that can be resolved within one or two calendar years, but which preclude immediate inclusion on the Annual Roster of Accredited Programs.

A program receiving a **denial** of accreditation has not demonstrated conformance with the NASPAA Standards. Programs receiving denials of accreditation may appeal the decision based on the grounds that:

- COPRA's decision was arbitrary, capricious, or not supported by substantial evidence in the record on which the Commission took action, or
- the procedures used to reach the decision were contrary to published COPRA Policies and Procedures, or other established practices, and the procedural error prejudiced the Commission's consideration of the program application.

If an accredited program chooses not to enter its regularly scheduled review cycle, the Commission will **withdraw** its accreditation status, effective either at the expiration of its regular term or at the due date for its next annual review, whichever is sooner.

COPRA has a rigorous, [multilevel process](#) for making accreditation and reaccreditation decisions. The process includes a self-study report, interim communication with COPRA, and a site visit by a team of peers. COPRA's multi-step process provides the checks and balances necessary to ensure fair and accurate decisions. COPRA has used every piece of the review process to ensure the quality of programs, consistency in the review process, and fairness in decision making.