Explore the Online Executive Master of Urban Planning From USC Price

The accelerated online Executive Master of Urban Planning program from USC Price School of Public Policy will help prepare you to improve the quality of life for people and their communities. USC Price has been ranked No. 2 for urban policy and No. 3 for public affairs by U.S. News & World Report for 2019.

¹U.S. News & World Report, March 2020
²U.S. News & World Report, March 2020
What Will You Learn in This Program?

As a student in our urban planning master’s program, you will gain advanced knowledge in four main areas:

- Project and land economics
- Political, legal and regulatory processes and stakeholder outreach
- Data analysis, visualization and communication
- Urban design and the built environment

Scroll down to learn more about our curriculum.
Review Our Courses and Curriculum

Our program is made up of **eight core courses** and **two four-day, in-person intensives**. It can be completed in as few as 16 months.

Our core courses are:

- Economics of a Productive Development
- Politics and Processes of Urban Development
- Urban Political Economy and Urban Development
- Economics for a Productive City
- Effective Engagement with Stakeholders
- Big Data for Planning and Development
- Leading a Collaborative City
- Integrating Concepts for Action

At the in-person intensives, you will analyze a planning project, work in a studio setting and visit a development site, among other activities. Both intensives take place on USC’s campus in Los Angeles, California.

For more information, and to get your specific questions about the curriculum answered, contact our admissions team at **1-213-740-0550** or **admissions@price.usc.edu**.
A Price Education Without Relocating

Our online program delivers the same high quality and intense rigor as USC Price’s on-campus master’s programs. As a student, you will:

- Engage in intimate discussions with your peers and faculty during live online classes
- Complete coursework weekly on your own time
- Access academic, career and technical support from the moment you enroll
- Have access to WeWork’s hundreds of office and co-working spaces worldwide

Scroll down to learn what you need to apply.
Tuition and Financial Aid

The current tuition rate is $1,928 per unit for the 2019–2020 academic year. You will complete a total of 24 units and should expect a moderate increase in tuition each academic year. A variety of options may be available to help fund your education — including federal loans, private loans and California-specific scholarships.

Learn more on our Tuition and Financial Aid page.

Scroll down to learn how this degree can benefit you.
Apply Your Knowledge Across a Wide Array of Professions

Our urban planning graduate program is designed for experienced professionals — including those currently working inside and outside the planning field — who want to make our cities more accessible and sustainable.

In particular, a few professions this degree may be a good fit for include:

- **City managers** who want to work more effectively with planners and developers
- **Architects** who design infill projects or master-planned communities and need a stronger background in the space
- **Affordable housing professionals** who need more knowledge about navigating the project approvals process and reaching out to stakeholders
- **Land use attorneys** looking to gain a deeper understanding of the economics of development

[Scroll down to learn more about leadership opportunities.]
Lead Organizations Across All Sectors

Upon graduation from our program, you will be prepared to take on leadership positions in:

- City, county, state and federal government
- Metropolitan and regional agencies
- Economic development organizations

You will also be prepared to work for private firms, nonprofits, and NGOs.
“In my role leading L.A. Metro’s transit-oriented communities, I span urban planning and development every day. At USC Price, I was fortunate to learn from some of the best scholars and practitioners who bridge those fields, and this degree is an exciting commitment to integrating the fields of urban planning and development.”

Nick Saponara, Master of Planning/Master of Real Estate Development ’07, Deputy Executive Officer, Transit-Oriented Communities, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Admissions Requirements

A bachelor’s degree is required to apply. Additionally, we prefer — though do not require — that applicants have five to seven years of professional work experience that relates to urban planning, real estate development or the intersection of those fields.

**GRE/GMAT scores are not required.**

To learn more about our admissions requirements and the application process, contact our admissions team at 1-213-740-0550 or admissions@price.usc.edu.

*Scroll down to learn what’s next.*
Connecting With Our Admissions Team

You will be assigned a dedicated admissions counselor who will be a valuable resource to you as you apply to the program. They will ensure you are supported throughout the application process.

Getting to know you. When you first connect with your admissions counselor, you will discuss your career goals and how your online program can help you achieve them.

Starting your application. They’ll provide you with an application checklist to keep you on track. They will be available to help you work through each item as you make progress on your application.

Following up. Once you’ve submitted your application, they will make sure your recommendation letters and transcripts have been submitted and will notify you of any changes that need to be made to your application.

Taking the next step. To prepare you for the program, should you be admitted, they will share information about financial planning and scheduling options. They can also help you set up a tour of the online campus so you know what to expect from the program.

You can reach out to our admissions team at 1-213-740-0550 or admissions@price.usc.edu with any questions you may have at this time.
Take the Next Step. Our Next Deadline Is Approaching.

We offer three start dates per year, and admission is rolling. If you apply by our Early Application Deadline, we will waive the $90 application fee.

If you’d like to learn more, our admissions counselors are happy to discuss the program and answer any questions you might have.

If you’re ready, you can also begin your application today to get a head start on shaping our cities of tomorrow.

Start My Application