



Master of International Development Policy

Duke University ■ Sanford School of Public Policy

Join our Close Community

The Master of International Development Policy (MIDP) focuses on providing a rigorous, interdisciplinary course of study to mid-career development practitioners and public servants from around the world. Offered through the Duke Center for International Development (DCID) at Duke's Sanford School of Public Policy, the MIDP brings together professionals who learn from both the faculty and each other to broaden their perspectives and hone their skills.



dcid.sanford.duke.edu

Our small class size and close-knit community allow our staff to provide personalized services, including assistance on arrival and while settling in, guidance on writing and communication, academic mentoring, and social and cultural events.

MIDP at a Glance (2017-18)

- Total number of students: 74
- Male: 50%
- Female: 50%

Region of Origin

- South Asia: 12%
- East & Southeast Asia: 23%
- Eurasia: 24%
- Middle East and North Africa: 8%
- Sub-Saharan Africa: 7%
- North America: 18%
- South & Central America: 7%
- Oceania: 1%



"Providing excellent and personalized support starting from admissions to continued career counseling, the MIDP staff greatly enriched my experience as a fellow. I also cherished the close knit community within

DCID which was created by social and cultural interactions facilitated by the staff."

– Ipchita Bharali MIDP '16, Duke Global Health Institute



Duke University is one of the world's leading research universities, currently ranked 26th in the QS World University Rankings. The Sanford School of Public Policy, home of the Duke Center for International Development (DCID), is ranked ninth in the nation in public policy analysis by *U.S. News and World Report*.

Duke is committed to interdisciplinarity and putting knowledge in the service of society. Its notable alumni include innovators, Olympians, two former heads of state, four Nobel Prize winners, high ranking government officials from around the world, and the founders and CEOs of prominent companies and organizations.

The Duke Difference

Enhance Your Knowledge

The MIDP program balances theory and practice to equip development practitioners and public servants with the necessary tools to make meaningful differences in the world. The program offers both one-year and two-year degree options. The required core courses, all designed and led by faculty with experience in both the classroom and the field, provide a strong foundation in economic, empirical and policy analysis for development.

Fellows have the opportunity to design their course of study to target their specific interests and areas of expertise, choosing from a wide array of courses within the Sanford School, at schools and departments throughout Duke, and from neighboring universities.



Master's Project

All fellows complete a master's project related to policy issues they hope to address upon completion of their degree. Recent master's projects include:

- Assessing the Potential for Public Private Partnerships in Turkey
- Peaceful Resolution of Conflict in Peru
- Food Waste Policy to Mitigate Climate Change
- Protecting Northern Triangle Refugee Women from Sexual and Gender Based Violence on Mexico's Southern Border
- Achieving Sustainable Development and Zero Deforestation in the Cocoa Industry
- Addressing Legal Barriers to HIV/AIDS Treatment in Iran
- Pursuing Shadows: Tax Evasion, Shadow Economy and Policy Designs in Indonesia
- Bridging the Basic Education Gap in Northern Nigeria
- Women's Safe Mobility in the Public Transport System of Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Health Policy Reform in Afghanistan: Targeting Maternal and Infant Mortality

Areas of Focus

- Applied Economics
- Development Management and Governance
- Environmental Management and Policy
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Law and Development
- Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Social Policy

Concurrent Certificates

- Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- East Asian Studies
- Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies
- Middle East Studies
- International Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Environmental Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Optional Specializations*

- International Taxation Program
- Public Financial Management Program

**Applicants must apply for these programs during the MIDP application process.*



Student Groups

MIDP fellows can become involved in more than 800 student groups on campus, including:

- Bridging Communities
- Sanford Latin American & Caribbean Group
- Sanford Journal of Public Policy
- Sanford Women in Policy
- Sanford Energy and Environment Club
- Duke Interdisciplinary Social Innovators
- Duke African Graduate and Professional Students Association
- Leaders for Political Dialogue

Bass Connections

Companies, governments and organizations are looking for graduates with training and experience tackling complex issues. Through Bass Connections, Duke is channeling its unique culture of collaboration, ambitious entrepreneurial spirit and established record of applying classroom learning to pressing global problems, to create a distinctive new model for education. Bass Connections elevates the importance of exploring societal and cultural challenges by:



- Engaging faculty, undergraduate students, graduate/professional students and trainees in teamwork
- Integrating disciplinary approaches and professional practice
- Applying knowledge, research and skills in problem-solving, with engagement from community partners

Lead and Innovate

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Duke University's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Initiative seeks to generate innovations from the ideas that grow at the university and translate those innovations to positively impact individuals, communities, institutions and societies.

Competitions

Every year, interested MIDP fellows participate in innovation and entrepreneurship competitions. The Hult prize challenges budding social entrepreneurs to address the world's most challenging issues. Fellows have also participated in Duke's mHealth Shark Tank competition and Duke's Startup Challenge, which allow students to share and get support for their most innovative ideas.

Service, Events and Projects

MIDP fellows have organized and led special events, student groups, conferences and service projects including symposia related to public policy in Peru and Chile, workshops on urban violence, community service in the local area and forums on political dialogue.



"Before coming here, I founded a for-profit social enterprise focused on promoting economic development of artisans in Guatemala, and had also worked on USAID projects. I was searching for a degree program that would allow me to grow professionally in the field, and that's when I found MIDP. I use the skills I learned in the program every day in my position."

—Gonzalo Pertile MIDP '16, Duke Global Health Institute



Experienced Faculty

The international faculty in the MIDP program include full-time scholars trained in a wide range of academic disciplines, visiting development practitioners, and “professors of the practice” who bring decades of practical, development-related work experience to the classroom.



“MIDP combines quality professors with quality fellows coming from different parts of the world. It creates an atmosphere of shared experiences and practical knowledge, which has helped me in understanding and formulating solutions for different problems my country is facing.”

—Del-Francis Wreh MIDP’15, Liberia Macroeconomic Policy Analysis Center, Liberian Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

Policy Advising

Faculty at the Duke Center for International Development (DCID) travel around the world building capacity for sustainable development. They have reformed tax systems in Indonesia and Egypt, improved public financial management systems in Ghana and Tanzania, and assisted with health sector reform in Panama.

Executive Education

DCID faculty also offer short-term intensive programs for senior- and mid-level officials in government, NGOs and international agencies.

Since 2002, nearly 6,000 professionals have honed their skills in budgeting, tax analysis, project appraisal, fiscal decentralization and other specialized topics.

Research & Publications

Faculty conduct research and are published regularly in issues related to sustainable development, peace and conflict resolution, economics and public finance.

Recent publications include a multi-regional study of the relationship between development and conflict, as well as a comprehensive handbook on public financial management.

Build Your Network

With more than 800 alumni in 95 countries around the world, MIDP provides a rich network of development practitioners and public servants who have been working in the field for years. The program also provides opportunities for fellows to enhance their network, hone their leadership skills, and hear from distinguished speakers.

Sanford School and DCID Sponsored Events

A variety of high-profile speakers are brought to Duke each year with the goal of connecting students and faculty to thought leaders. Below are just a few of the series sponsored by Sanford and DCID annually.

Terry Sanford Distinguished Lecture

The Sanford School brings a variety of high-profile speakers to Duke each year with the goal of connecting students and faculty to thought leaders. These lectures and events are free and open to the public and are meant to promote engaged and enlightened leadership. Speakers have included New York Times columnist David Brooks, USAID administrator Rajiv Shah, and former Costa Rican president Oscar Arias Sanchez.

its reach through a partnership with the Duke University Center for International and Global Studies (DUCIGS). The series features speakers with exciting new approaches to international development. They are well-known thinkers and development practitioners from large, emerging economies who discuss topics from addressing global uncertainties in developing countries, to alternative approaches to planning mega-cities.

In 2017, the series hosted Dr. Zhongxia Jin, Executive Director for China at the International Monetary Fund, and D. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, the first female finance minister of Nigeria and former managing director of the World Bank.

Rethinking Development

In 2017, DCID relaunched our Rethinking Development seminar series and expanded



“One of the extraordinary aspects of the MIDP program is its professional development services. What I appreciate the most is that they help MIDP graduates not only when they are enrolled in the program but far beyond the program completion. For me, that is when I needed expert advice on how to search for the right job, how to prepare a resume and cover letter, and how to present myself at an interview session.”

– Zohara Kakaar MIDP '15, National Democratic Institute (NDI), Fulbright Fellow

Professional Development Services

- Career advising
- Skills-based workshops
- Information Sessions
- Alumni in Residence series
- Practitioner in Residence series
- Interview and networking strategies
- Strategic employer relationships



Annual trip to Washington, D.C.

Every year, fellows participate in a three-day trip to the U.S. capital, where they meet with government officials, researchers and staff of NGOs and international agencies in the development sector. Fellows also take advantage of this trip to arrange their own informational meetings with specific organizations that are relevant to their professional interests and goals.

A Welcoming Community

Duke University is located in the vibrant city of Durham, North Carolina. U.S. News and World Report ranks Durham as one of the top 10 places to live in the United States. Here's why:



A temperate climate and great outdoor activities:

Durham's weather averages 59 degrees (F), all year long. It's only a 3 hour drive to either the beach or the mountains. In the city, there are dozens of parks, running trails, and biking trails to explore. Right here on campus, the stunning Duke Gardens are a great place to relax.



Food, culture, and nightlife: The Durham Performing Arts Center offers Broadway theater productions, the Nasher Museum of Art hosts international exhibits. Durham has been named one of the "foodiest" cities in the U.S. because of its growing restaurant scene, especially downtown. From film festivals to street fairs, there is always something fun happening in Durham!



A great place for families: Durham is affordable and there are many options for family fun. For example, the Museum of Life and Science is an interactive museum aimed at kids. Love sports? Families can enjoy a great night out watching the beloved Durham Bulls baseball team or a lively Duke Blue Devils basketball game.



In the heart of the "Research Triangle:" With eight Universities in the area, plus the famous Research Triangle Park which hosts top Fortune 100 companies, and a thriving startup culture, Durham is a center for innovation and education. In 2013, Google recognized Durham as one of the seven key tech hubs in the U.S.



Proximity without the price tag: From Raleigh-Durham International Airport, Washington, D.C. is only an hour away, and New York City is less than two hours away. In addition to air travel, major cities are easily accessible by train and bus. For less than \$50 and about 5 hours, you can reach D.C. on MegaBus or Greyhound.

Duke's Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

Duke is a diverse community committed to the principles of excellence, fairness, and respect for all people. As part of this commitment, we actively value diversity in our workplace and learning environments as we seek to take advantage of the rich backgrounds and abilities of everyone. We believe that when we understand, celebrate, and tap into our uniqueness to creatively solve problems and address shared goals, our possibilities are limitless.



The Sanford School has actively embraced the call to action embedded in Duke's statement of commitment to diversity. The dean established the Sanford School's Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) in 2015, and approximately 25 committed students, staff, faculty and administrators now make up the CDI's diverse working group.

In the MIDP program, racial and cultural diversity has been a key aspect of our program since it began. We regularly celebrate our unique global community and can't wait to welcome you to Duke.



MIDP fellows in the two-year program are required to complete a practitioner based or research based internship. Internships may include field experience, headquarter experience, short-term consultancies or research projects. Recently, fellows have been accepted for summer positions at:

- The World Bank
- The United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- The International Finance Corporation
- Oxfam America
- Brookings Institute
- UNWomen
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Swisspeace

Put Knowledge into Practice

The MIDP degree prepares established professionals to take the next step in their careers, usually in the public or nonprofit sectors. Of the 2017 graduates who returned to their public sector jobs, approximately 60 percent received a promotion.

Jobs by Sector, 2017 Graduates

- Government agencies: 56%
- Private sector/Consulting: 15%
- NGOs: 8%
- Academia: 5%
- Not reported: 15%

Internships or Consultancies by Sector, 2018

- NGOs: 20%
- International organizations: 27%
- Independent research: 43%
- Government agencies: 7%
- Think Tanks: 3%



"The two years I spent at Duke were truly transformational for me in terms of professional and personal development. This year I am celebrating my 20th anniversary at the World Bank, where I have worked in poverty analysis, gender mainstreaming, macro-economic management, fiscal decentralization and development finance."

– Gulnara Febres MIDP'96, World Bank, Muskie Fellow



Fund your Studies

The MIDP partners with various organizations and programs that may be a source of funding for qualified applicants, such as:

- Paul D. Coverdell Peace Corps Fellows Program
- Joint Japan/World Bank Scholarship
- Yellow Ribbon U.S. Military Veterans Program
- Rotary Peace Fellowship
- Organization of American States
- Bolashak Scholarship Program for Kazakh citizens
- Open Society Foundation Civil Society Leader Awards

In addition, the MIDP program offers the scholarships listed below, along with a limited number of partial tuition scholarships. A separate application is not required for consideration.

- Oliver Oldman Scholarships in International Taxation and Public Financial Management
- Magdalena Yesil Fellowship for Armenian citizens
- International Volunteer Fellowship for those who have volunteered at least one year outside their home country

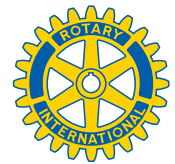
See our website for a complete list of funding and scholarship sources.



“What attracted me to this program in particular was the chance to meet people from all around the world and really hear their voices. Not a lot of programs in the U.S. offer that.”

– Allegra Panetto MIDP '17, USAID, Paul D. Coverdell Fellow

The Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center, with funding from Rotary International, selects Rotary Peace Fellows and provides full scholarships to the MIDP program based on their ability to have a significant impact on world peace.



The Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program, in partnership with the United States Peace Corps, offers financial assistance to Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who show potential to make a substantive impact on international sustainable development. While at Duke, Peace Corps Fellows work with local, underserved communities.



How to Apply

Who is Eligible?

Admission to the MIDP is competitive, based on the applicant's academic and professional credentials, essays, English proficiency and letters of recommendation. Applicants must have:

- Relevant professional work experience of at least five years which shows an increase in responsibilities over time. Development-related experience is preferred.
- A strong academic background which demonstrates the ability to successfully undertake graduate studies. Duke University requires the completion of a four-year undergraduate degree to be eligible to apply.
- Essays which demonstrate a commitment to working in development and a deep awareness of development issues.
- Letters of recommendation from professional and/or academic references, which speak in detail about the applicant's potential and skills.
- Excellent written and oral English skills

In addition, to be eligible for the one-year degree, applicants must have completed at least one year of graduate-level coursework in a relevant field, and must have an academic background in market-based economics with high grades.

Application Process

A complete application includes:

Electronic Application
dcid.sanford.duke.edu/apply

Transcript(s)

You must upload unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended with degree posted. Transcripts must contain all of the following information:

- Your full name
- Dates you attended the institution
- Date the degree was issued
- Titles of courses or subjects in which you were enrolled
- Number of hours of instruction involved in each course or subject
- Grade, mark or other form of evaluation you received for each course or subject
- Degree or diploma awarded for completion of your studies

Official transcripts are required for full admission to the university. To be considered official, the document(s) must contain the institution's stamp or other form of certification that clearly indicates authenticity. Non-English transcripts must be translated by an official translator.

Test Scores

All applicants whose first language is not English, who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents, must submit TOEFL, IELTS or PTE scores (not older than two years).

Minimum score requirements are as follows:

- 7.0 overall band score on IELTS
- 90 on TOEFL IBT (Internet-based)
- 64 on PTE

The GRE is NOT required, however scores can be submitted to institutional code 5156.

Three (3) letters of recommendation

We require the online electronic letter of recommendation and evaluation form.

Statement of Purpose

Not to exceed one page

Policy Essay

Not to exceed one page

Resume

Not to exceed two pages

Application Fee

Applicants pay the fee by credit card at the time of submission of the electronic application.

The priority application deadline is January 5. Applications are accepted after that date on a space-available basis.

Contact us: +1 919-613-9281 or visit dcid.sanford.duke.edu.

Applicant Requirements

At least 5 years of professional work experience

Completion of four-year undergraduate degree

Statement of purpose

Essay that discusses specific policy problem you have faced

3 letters of recommendation

Excellent English skills



“Don’t just accept the world you inherit today. Don’t just accept the status quo. No big challenge has ever been solved and no lasting improvement has ever been achieved unless people dare to try something different.”

Tim Cook, MBA '88 in his 2018 Duke commencement speech

Photos by Duke University Photography, Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau, Susan Carroll, Tiffany Goetzinger, Abdul Kaakar, Quinton Smith and Julia Vail



MIDP Admissions
MIDPinfo@duke.edu
+1 919-613-9281
Box 90237
289 Rubenstein Hall
Durham NC 27708-0237