

# FALL 2024 TRADITIONAL MPA

## ADMISSIONS ESSAYS

At Texas McCombs, we celebrate being a collaborative community that values each person's unique experiences, passions, and perspectives. Essays help us get to know you as an individual and how you would fit with our culture and community. We also use them to assess your communication and presentation skills.

This is your opportunity to give us more insight into your background, goals, and personality. Strong essays convey research and reflection. Three essays are required for your Texas McCombs MPA admissions application. You can submit an optional statement if you would like to provide additional information regarding your application.

### **Written Essay 1 (Required)** (Between 350-500 words)

Upload a PDF document in the admissions application.

*Explain why you are interested in pursuing a master's degree in accounting and how this degree will help you to achieve your career goals.*

### **Written Essay 2 (Required)** (Between 250-350 words)

Upload a PDF document in the admissions application.

*Students in the MPA program come from a wide variety of academic backgrounds. Irrespective of background, one common characteristic of successful MPA students is analytical aptitude. This means that successful MPA students can analyze and interpret information to identify and solve problems and make effective decisions.*

*Explain how you have used analytical skills either in a class or in a professional, volunteer, or extracurricular (student or other organization) experience. How did you analyze or interpret information to answer a complex question, improve a process, find a solution to a problem, or make a decision?*

### **Video Essay (Required)** (One minute)

Record and upload your video essay to a video-sharing platform such as YouTube or Vimeo or to a cloud storage site such as Google Drive. Please do not use TikTok. Provide a link to your video in the admissions application. If the video link is password protected, also provide the login information.

Tips: Be professional, try not to read off a script (we want to see you as your peers, instructors or employers see you!), and don't worry about fancy editing techniques. Review your video's privacy settings and ensure that they are not overly restrictive. For example, YouTube videos should be "Unlisted" or "Public" rather than "Private." Make sure that your link does not expire and that you do not remove your video until you receive an admissions decision.

*Imagine that you are in attendance at MPA orientation. Introduce yourself to your new classmates, faculty members, and potential employers. Highlight your background, talents, hobbies, interests, or any other factors that make you unique. Present a thoughtful introduction.*

[WWW.MCCOMBS.UTEXAS.EDU/MPA](http://WWW.MCCOMBS.UTEXAS.EDU/MPA)

**Optional Statement (Written)** (No word limit)

Optional: Upload a PDF document in the admissions application.

*Please provide any additional information you believe is important to your application (e.g., details about any planned prerequisite coursework) or address any areas of concern that you believe will be beneficial to the MPA admissions committee when considering your application (e.g., explanation of academic performance or extenuating personal circumstances).*

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