

HUMAN RESOURCES AND EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-admissions/how-to-apply/>). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.)

Students who do not have a GPA of at least 3.0 will be considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the quality of their overall application. One year of full-time work experience (or its equivalent) is preferred; however, students who meet all other requirements will be considered with less than the preferred minimum.

Admissions decisions for the program are based on the quality of the applicant's credentials. The decisions are based on a review of the complete application portfolio. During the admission process, students who are better suited for another graduate program will be encouraged to apply to the appropriate program. Applicants to the M.P.S. HRER must submit the following materials:

- Must submit a resume.
 - Must submit a writing sample - Preferably an individually written essay or research paper that the student submitted in a college course (Please note: the resume is not considered to be a writing sample).
 - Must submit scores from the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) or the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)
 - Must submit official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission/>). Applicants with a 3.00 junior/senior grade-point average (on a 4.00 scale) will be considered for admission. Exceptions to the minimum grade-point average may be made at the discretion of the program for students with special backgrounds, abilities, and interests.
 - Must submit three letters of recommendation sent from people who can adequately assess the student's likelihood of completing the graduate program.
- Short Answer Questions: Applicants will be asked to respond to the following 5 questions within the graduate application. The answers to these questions will allow the admissions committee to get to know more about you, your goals, and experiences.
 - What are your short term and long-term career goals and how do you expect this program to impact those career goals?
 - Discuss your strategy of how you will shape the program to support your professional aspirations.
 - Tell us about your leadership style and provide a supporting example.
 - Explain how you are prepared/preparing to succeed in a rigorous graduate program. Discuss your strategies, and perceived challenges, that you may have related to time management, and plans for how you will handle unexpected changes/interruptions to your schedule.
 - Give an example of a time in which you received professional constructive criticism. What was it, who did it come from, and how did you apply it going forward?
 - Documentation of a minimum of 1 year of full-time work and a resume should be attached as a supplement;
 - One letter of recommendation that attests to the applicant's readiness for graduate study and documents the requisite minimum of one year of work experience;
 - Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission/>).

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are not required.

Master of Science (M.S.)

Applicants to the M.S. HRER program:

- Must submit a 2-3 page essay articulating career and educational goals that demonstrates the applicant's written communication skills.