

# EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES, BS

## HOW TO GET IN

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### PROGRAM DECLARATION OVERVIEW

The Educational Policy Studies major may be completed either as the primary major or as an additional ("double") major.

#### Primary Major in Educational Policy Studies

Undergraduate students interested in completing the Bachelor of Science–Educational Policy Studies degree program will fulfill the School of Education's liberal studies and other degree requirements in addition to the 30 credits required for the Educational Policy Studies major.

#### Additional Major in Educational Policy Studies

Undergraduate students from all schools and colleges on campus (including the School of Education) may declare Educational Policy Studies as an additional major. Students completing Educational Policy Studies as an additional major do not need to complete the School of Education's liberal studies and other degree requirements. For declaration information, go directly to the Additional Major in Educational Policy Studies (p. 2) section below.

## ENTERING THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

### New and Current UW–Madison Students

**Incoming freshmen** enter directly into the Bachelor of Science–Educational Policy Studies degree program upon admission to UW–Madison; list Educational Policy Studies as the intended major. No additional declaration to Educational Policy Studies is required. See UW–Madison Office of Admissions and Recruitment (<http://admissions.wisc.edu/>) for application information.

**All other on-campus students** will submit a declaration form following a meeting with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building. Call 608-262-1651 or email [studentservices@education.wisc.edu](mailto:studentservices@education.wisc.edu), to schedule an appointment; current students can also schedule an appointment online through the Starfish app (<https://advising.wisc.edu/facstaff/starfish/starfish-student-resources/>) in MyUW.

### Prospective Transfer Students

Transfer students must be admissible to the university to enroll in a School of Education degree program. See UW–Madison Office of Admissions and Recruitment (<http://admissions.wisc.edu/>) for application information. Transfer students enter directly into the Bachelor of Science–Educational Policy Studies degree program upon admission to UW–Madison; list Educational Policy Studies as the intended major. No additional declaration to Educational Policy Studies is required. Prospective transfer students are strongly advised to meet with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building, in advance of their application. Consultations with advisors are available in person, virtually, or via telephone. To schedule, call 608-262-1651 or email [studentservices@education.wisc.edu](mailto:studentservices@education.wisc.edu). Requirements and selection criteria may be modified from one declaration period to the next.

### Students With A Previous Degree

Prospective students who already hold an undergraduate degree must be admissible to the university to enroll in a School of Education degree program. See UW–Madison Office of Admissions and Recruitment (<http://admissions.wisc.edu/>) for application information.

Applicants must also meet the following criteria for admission as a second undergraduate degree candidate in the School of Education. Candidates must:

- be seeking a new major that is substantially different from their previous degree work;
- need to complete at least 15 upper-level credits in the new major;
- need to complete at least 30 credits beyond their previous coursework.

When admitted, second degree candidates enter directly into the Bachelor of Science–Educational Policy Studies degree program. No additional declaration to Educational Policy Studies is required.

Prospective students who already hold an undergraduate degree are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building, in advance of their application to UW–Madison. Consultations with advisors are available in person, virtually, or via telephone. To schedule, call 608-262-1651 or email [studentservices@education.wisc.edu](mailto:studentservices@education.wisc.edu). ([studentservices@education.wisc.edu](mailto:studentservices@education.wisc.edu))

## DECLARATION AND ADMISSION

While new first year students and off-campus transfers are admitted directly to the Bachelor of Science–Educational Policy Studies degree program, all other current UW–Madison students seeking to enter the BS–Educational Policy Studies degree program must consult with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building, prior to submitting a declaration form. Current students can schedule an appointment with an advisor online through the Starfish app (<https://advising.wisc.edu/facstaff/starfish/starfish-student-resources/>) in MyUW. Appointments can also be made through email at [studentservices@education.wisc.edu](mailto:studentservices@education.wisc.edu), by calling 608-262-1651, or in person.

### Criteria for Admission

Eligibility to declare the Bachelor of Science–Educational Policy Studies degree:

- Cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.5 based on UW–Madison campus coursework, as modified by the Last 60 Credits Rule described below. Note: Students declaring Educational Policy Studies as an additional major are not held to this requirement.
- Submission of all required declaration materials, including program declaration form and transcripts.

Requirements and selection criteria may be modified from one declaration period to the next.

### Last 60 Credits Rule

Two grade point averages may be calculated to determine candidates' eligibility to programs. GPAs will be calculated using

- all transferable college level coursework attempted, and
- the last 60 credits attempted.

The higher GPA of these two will be used for purposes of determining eligibility. If fewer than 60 credits have been attempted, all credits will be used to calculate the GPA. Graded graduate coursework will also be used in all GPA calculations. ("Attempted" coursework indicates coursework for which a grade has been earned.) More information on this rule is available here (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/#policiesandregulationstext>).

## ADDITIONAL MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES

Undergraduate students from all schools and colleges on campus (including the School of Education) may declare Educational Policy Studies as an additional major. Students wishing to declare the additional major must visit an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building, to complete the declaration form; call 608-262-1651 or schedule an appointment with an advisor online through the Starfish app (<https://advising.wisc.edu/facstaff/starfish/starfish-student-resources/>) in MyUW. The declaration must also be approved by the student's home school/college.

An additional major in Educational Policy Studies only requires the completion of the 30 credit major. Students do not need to complete the School of Education's liberal studies and other degree requirements for the additional major. Applicants are not held to the 2.5 cumulative GPA required of students completing the Educational Policy Studies degree program.

Please note that the requirements of the additional major must be completed before or concurrently with the degree program and primary major.

## DECLARING HONORS IN THE MAJOR

Students wishing to pursue Honors in Educational Policy Studies must consult with an advisor in the School of Education Student Services office, 139 Education Building, prior to submitting an Honors declaration form. Current students can schedule an appointment with an advisor online through the Starfish app (<https://advising.wisc.edu/facstaff/starfish/starfish-student-resources/>) in MyUW. Appointments can also be made through email at [studentservices@education.wisc.edu](mailto:studentservices@education.wisc.edu), by calling 608-262-1651, or in person.

### Criteria for Admission

Admission to Honors in Educational Policy Studies requires that students:

- Be a declared major in Educational Policy Studies. Students may declare the major and Honors at the same time.
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.3
- Have met with a School of Education Advisor regarding Honors in the Major
- Select a research method pathway and *have completed* one prerequisite research course (ED POL 209 or ED POL 308) with a grade of AB or higher
- Submit all required declaration materials, including the Honors declaration form and transcript(s).