



Application Top Tips

Kathryn Ward, Graduate Admissions Premium Service Manager, gives her top-tips for School of Public Policy (SPP) applicants to make the most of their application.

Apply early

Application decisions are made on a rolling basis; the earlier you apply, the more places available.

We recommend applying by our early deadline of **12 January 2024**, as this is when we will receive the peak of applications.

Please note our double degree programmes have individual application deadlines. Please also note any funding deadlines and apply with plenty of time before the deadline.

Read the application guidance

From choosing the right programme, to your statement of academic purpose, to how your references should be completed: we have guidance for that!

Research your programme

Each programme page includes entry requirements and documents essential for applying, a programme overview, and links to individual modules which can give insight into the structure and content of the programme.

This will not only ensure you applying to the right programme, but will also help when writing your statement of academic purpose and improve your chances of a successful application.

Refine your statement

As we don't hold interviews, it is paramount that your statement of academic purpose is clear, concise, critically engaged with the content of the programme.

It should be unique to you, but you needn't be an expert in the subject you are applying to! Use your experiences and interests to form your statement.

Prepare your referees

Your application can't be considered until both references have been received. Your references will be used for all programmes you apply to, so ensure you speak with your referees in advance to avoid any delays.

Try to select at least one academic referee, but professional references can be nominated if you feel they are best suited.

Got more questions?

You can find the answers to most admissions queries in the [Graduate Admissions Knowledge base](#). You can also visit [our website](#).