



Perris Press Release

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MPA Program Comes to Perris

Graduate school is coming to the City of Perris.

California State University, Northridge, will host the City's first-ever college course this fall when the initial Master's Degree in Public Administration begins classes.

Enrollment in the fall class maxed out, with 30 students signing up. The response was so overwhelming that 18 other prospective students could not gain acceptance because the MPA cohort was complete.

The MPA program is open to current municipal, utility and public-safety employees who already possess a Bachelor's Degree. Taught by CSUN faculty and current and former city administrators from throughout Southern California, the class is considered one of the nation's finest in post-graduate public administration studies.

The two-year program requires applicants to complete 12 courses in subjects like human resources management, strategic planning and organizational theory.

Employees from the City of Perris, Wildomar, Moreno Valley, Temecula, Murrieta and Riverside are among those who have signed up for the fall program.

Classes start on Aug. 23.

"We are grateful to the City of Perris for extending us this opportunity," said Ravi Roy, Associate Director of Public Sector Programs and a CSUN instructor. "We have received nothing but positive comments from Mayor (Daryl) Busch and the City Council. We are looking to Perris as a wonderful partner to help us deliver public sector programs in this area."

Perris interim finance director Misty Cheng, who received an MPA from Cal State Northridge and helped start the City's cohort, said she was delighted the program was received so enthusiastically. She said CSUN may start a second class to accommodate "an overwhelming response" from interested students.

"I brought the MPA program to Perris to see it succeed," Cheng said. "I would not have done so if I thought it would fail. To my surprise, the response to the program has been so successful, we now have a new challenge to accommodate all prospective students in providing them with higher education."

Perris Public Works Manager Daryl Hartwill said he is enrolling for the MPA program to become a more valuable City employee.

"One of the reasons for the enrollment at this time is the location of the class here in Perris," Hartwill said. "It is an opportunity for me to work here in the city and meet others who work and/or live nearby and network with those individuals who no doubt have a vested interest in the area. Ultimately, I think the program offers a well rounded curriculum that should be very beneficial for all who enroll and more specific for those who are currently working within a public municipality."



Ravi Roy, associate director of Public Sector Programs for California State University, Northridge, addresses a group of prospective student in Perris.