

# PEPPERDINE

## SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

Welcome new SPP first-year students!

The Office of Program Services and Admissions is thrilled you are joining us here at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy! We are located in the beautiful city of Malibu, California; and this location offers many activities from surfing and hiking to delicious eateries – not to mention breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean! Our students can attend classes and relax just steps away at the Malibu pier. You have come to right place to begin your graduate academic journey in pursuit of your Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree!

This Pre-Orientation Packet provides useful information that will make your transition into student life a breeze! Review this package completely before your arrival, as many items require action before you get here in order to make your transition to Malibu smooth. Such items include:

- 1. Providing official degree conferral transcripts**
- 2. Arranging for housing during your studies (either on- or off-campus)**
- 3. Submitting your FAFSA, if requesting Federal Student Loans and/or Federal Work Study**
- 4. Demonstrating health insurance coverage**
- 5. Knowing how to order text books**
- 6. Submitting your REQUIRED photo for your Pepperdine Student ID Card**
- 7. Registering your vehicle (as a campus resident or commuter student)**
- 8. For International Students, submitting all required information to OISS**
- 9. Getting to know the various SPP student organizations**
- 10. SPP's Fall 2020 Maximum Flexibility Plan – Start your MPP on-line or on-ground Fall 2020!**

For real-time University updates and our latest responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit:  
<https://www.pepperdine.edu/coronavirus/>

We know this is a lot of information – but we want you to be fully prepared. If you still have questions, always feel free to contact the Office of Program Services and Admissions directly at [SPPAdmissions@pepperdine.edu](mailto:SPPAdmissions@pepperdine.edu) or 310.506.7493.

We look forward to welcoming you in August! Remember: New Student Orientation begins the week of Monday, August 10 and will conclude by Thursday, August 13. Orientation is required for all new School of Public Policy students. Class will begin on Monday, August 17, 2020.

See you soon!

**Office of Program Services and Admissions**  
**Pepperdine School of Public Policy**  
[SPPAdmissions@pepperdine.edu](mailto:SPPAdmissions@pepperdine.edu)

## Table of Contents

<b>OFFICIAL DEGREE TRANSCRIPT REMINDER</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>HOUSING INFORMATION</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>On-Campus Graduate Student Housing</i>	2
<i>Off-Campus Graduate Student Housing</i>	3
<b>FINANCIAL AID</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>General Financial Aid Information</i>	4
<i>Federal Work-study Information</i>	4
<b>HEALTH INSURANCE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>DRESCHER GRADUATE CAMPUS BOOKSTORE</b>	<b>7</b>
<i>Purchasing Books from Amazon</i>	7
<b>STUDENT ID CARD INFORMATION</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>VEHICLE REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>The best news: Parking permits are free!</i>	10
<i>Parking FAQ:</i>	11
<b>IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Next Steps...</i>	12
<i>Apply for Your F-1 Visa</i>	13
<i>Arrival Checklist</i>	13
<b>SPP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>SPP “Maximum Flexibility Strategy” - Fall 2020</b>	<b>16</b>

## OFFICIAL DEGREE TRANSCRIPT REMINDER

Please review your [Wavenet](#) "To-Do" list regarding receipt of your official degree transcripts.

If it is noted that the School of Public Policy has not received your final transcripts, which reflect your baccalaureate degree conferral, please contact your undergraduate institution and request that they be sent to the Pepperdine School of Public Policy as soon as possible.



Address and mail transcripts to:

**Pepperdine University  
School of Public Policy  
Office of Admission  
24255 Pacific Coast Highway  
Malibu, CA 90263-7493**

*Official Electronic Submissions **DIRECTLY** sent from Schools/Clearinghouses Accepted and **ENCOURAGED!**  
Submit to: [SPPAdmissions@pepperdine.edu](mailto:SPPAdmissions@pepperdine.edu)*

**Before you can begin classes**, we must have final transcripts, which include the degree and date conferred.

## HOUSING INFORMATION

***Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please ensure you maintain constant contact with the Housing and Residential Life Office for Updates and Space Availability if you wish to live on campus Fall 2020.***

Phone: 310.506.7586 – Email: [housing@pepperdine.edu](mailto:housing@pepperdine.edu) - [Housing Website](#)

**Planning to live on campus?** Check out the [Public Policy Housing website](#) to learn more about how to sign up for on-campus housing.

**Planning to live off-campus?** Familiarize yourself with Malibu and its surrounding areas. Consider the length of your off-campus lease terms as you may or may not stay in the Malibu area for your summer and consider any transportation requirements to ensure you have reliable transit to and from campus.

*Note: The School of Public Policy is not responsible for student housing – either on-campus or off-campus.*

### On-Campus Graduate Student Housing

The Drescher Graduate Residential Complex is reserved expressly for graduate students. Apartments are fully furnished and include all utilities, basic cable, and phone service. Each room is wired for internet access. Review the [Living Area page](#) on the Housing website to learn more.

Housing applications are now live. Access the Housing Portal via the [Public Policy Housing website](#). Familiarize yourself with all sections of the website. **To apply** for housing, click on “Housing Selection,” review the “Selection Dates and Instructions,” the “Living Area,” and “Rates.” Then click on the “Housing Portal” to start the application process. *Note: applications are not complete until you have deposited the \$500 pre-payment onto your student account.*



**Spaces are limited and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.** Apartments usually house four students. Each student has a single occupancy bedroom. Each unit contains four bedrooms, one bathroom, a living/dining area and a kitchen. You may request one-to-three specific roommates using the Housing Portal by mutually linking with each other. Otherwise, the Housing Office will select your roommates from the School of Public Policy first. As spaces fill up, Housing may need to place students together from different graduate programs. See the Housing website for specific instructions and more detailed information.

**Check-in for new/incoming SPP students is Friday August 7, 2020.**

Per Semester 2020-2021 academic year housing costs (utilities and telephone included): **\$ 8,000.00**

We recommend that you submit your housing contract on-line and make your \$500 pre-payment via WaveNet as soon as possible. The non-refundable deposit applies to your room charges upon enrollment.

### Off-Campus Graduate Student Housing

There are many different off-campus options, ranging from apartment complexes in Malibu and its surrounding areas to private rentals. If you are living off-campus, it is the student's responsibility to ensure they are comfortable with the living situation, have the necessary funds to make on-time rent and utilities payments, and have transportation necessary to travel to and from campus.

The [SPP graduate housing website](#) has some off-campus housing resources for students. These are public resources available to anyone and SPP does not vet, nor is responsible for, the listings found on these off-campus housing resources.

Our office and the Pepperdine Housing Office is available to assist and provide tips for your housing search.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions: Pepperdine Housing Office: 310.506.7586 or e-mail [housing@pepperdine.edu](mailto:housing@pepperdine.edu)



## FINANCIAL AID

We will process federal financial aid only for those who have submitted a FAFSA. If you do not want Federal Student Loans, but **do want to be considered for Federal Work study** you must still submit a FAFSA if you are eligible to file for Federal Financial Aid.

For those who have not submitted the FAFSA yet, here is a Financial Aid Checklist to keep you on track:

- Submit the FAFSA or Renewal FAFSA: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- Accept/Decline/reduce Financial Aid amounts on WaveNet: <https://wavenet.pepperdine.edu>

General Financial Aid Information:

<https://publicpolicy.pepperdine.edu/admission/financial-aid/>

Federal Work-study Information:

<https://publicpolicy.pepperdine.edu/admission/financial-aid/federal-work-study/>

Starting with the 2017-2018 FAFSA, students will be required to report income and tax information from an earlier tax year. This is because students can now submit their annual FAFSA as early as October 1.

For example, for 2020-2021, you will be required to report income from 2018. You must report the information FAFSA asks for. Please submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2020-2021, and **use the IRS data retrieval tool**, which will allow FAFSA to import your tax data, making the process easier and more accurate.

**If you are not planning to take any Federal Work Study or Federal Student Loans, please let our office know as soon as possible.** You may contact Christopher “CJ” Jones, Director of Program Services and Admissions, directly at [Christopher.j.jones@pepperdine.edu](mailto:Christopher.j.jones@pepperdine.edu) or 310.506.7369.



## HEALTH INSURANCE

Pepperdine University requires health care coverage to limit undue financial and academic stress related to illnesses during the academic year. A health policy will assist in meeting not only common illnesses treated at the Student Health Center or at a private physician's office, but also with the financial burden of illness and accidents involving more extensive care.

### School of Public Policy Requirements (SPP)

All SPP students (including those studying abroad) are required to purchase health insurance with U.S. based coverage comparable to the University's policy or enroll in the [Student Health Insurance Plan \(SHIP\)](#) EACH semester/term. It is highly recommended that insurance coverage include local care close to Malibu. All new and returning students must submit an electronic waiver upon entrance and each fall term thereafter, as proof of insurance.

### New Fall Students

All degree-seeking students registered on the Malibu campus are required to submit an **electronic waiver** of other insurance if they do not wish to purchase the Student Insurance Health Plan (SHIP).

### [AHP Insurance Dashboard Guidance](#)

To meet the University health insurance requirement, new and returning students must select one of two options on the [AHP Insurance Dashboard](#):

1. Confirm the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) option by clicking the **ENROLL** button, or
2. Provide proof of an existing health insurance plan by clicking the **WAIVE** button

#### **Note:**

To log into the system, students will need to enter their Pepperdine campus-wide identification (CWID) number and password. CWID numbers can be found on the front of student ID cards or in the "personal info" section on [WaveNet](#).

When students first log into the system, their password is their date of birth (MMDDYYYY).

### **Fall 2020 Waiver Submissions, Deadlines, and Premium Charges**

#### **AHP Insurance Dashboard is Open**

May 15-August 15, 2020: Select one of two options on the [AHP Insurance Dashboard](#) to meet the University's health insurance requirement. Students with a health insurance plan comparable to SHIP must complete an online waiver form before the August 15, 2020 waiver deadline.

#### **SHIP Charges Post**

August 16, 2020: Fall SHIP charges post to the student accounts of all eligible students who have selected the SHIP option or have not completed an online waiver submission through the [AHP Insurance](#)

[Dashboard](#) and received an approved waiver notification by August 15, 2020.

#### **Grace Period**

August 16-September 5, 2020: Final opportunity for students who have not completed the University's health insurance requirement through the AHP Insurance Dashboard to select from the two available options. Students who select to waive out of the SHIP option, complete a waiver request, and receive an approved waiver notification, will have the premium charges reversed from their student accounts.

#### **Final Waiver Deadline**

September 5, 2020: Charges for SHIP will only be reversed for students who submit proof of insurance through [the AHP Insurance Dashboard](#) and receive an approved waiver notification between May 15, 2020, and September 5, 2020. If the waiver is submitted and approved after the August 15, 2020 deadline and SHIP charges post to the student account, the charge will be reversed prior to the due date for this fee.

Students who do not provide proof of U.S. based insurance and have an approved waiver notification through the [AHP Insurance Dashboard](#) prior to the September 5, 2020 deadline are automatically enrolled in SHIP to meet the University's health insurance requirement and are responsible for the charge on their student account.

#### **Fall Premium:**

**\$2,077 (Policy Period: 08/15-12/31)**

Students who enroll in SHIP for the fall term will automatically roll over to spring/summer enrollment. These students have the option to waive the spring/summer SHIP through the [AHP Insurance Dashboard](#) between November 15, 2020, and February 1, 2021.

**Note:** Non-degree and exchange students are not required to provide proof of health insurance coverage and are not eligible to purchase SHIP.

Students graduating in December 2020 who enroll in SHIP for the fall 2020 term will have the option to enroll in the 2021 spring/summer SHIP by contacting Academic HealthPlans by the February 1 enrollment deadline.

#### **Questions?**

To learn more about SHIP, SHIP enrollments, information for those graduating in December, the insurance requirement, or to access the SHIP brochure, please utilize the [Academic HealthPlans customer care online resource center](#).

## DRESCHER GRADUATE CAMPUS BOOKSTORE

***Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please ensure you contact the Bookstore well in advance for hours and in person availability. We highly suggest you order ONLINE!***

Phone: 310.506.8569 – Email: [pepperdine-drescher@bkstr.com](mailto:pepperdine-drescher@bkstr.com) - [Drescher Bookstore ONLINE](#)

Centrally located down the hall from the student dining room, across from the main lecture hall and 15 feet from the School of Public Policy, the Drescher Graduate Campus Bookstore has all required textbooks available for your courses, specified by your professors. These can be purchased or rented.



Renting will save you 50% or more. Register for this exciting program at [Follett Rental](#). To purchase books online visit: [Drescher Bookstore ONLINE](#)

The Bookstore also offers a selection of miscellaneous supplies from pencils, post-its, paper and USB flash drives to clothing, gifts and accessories created especially for the School of Public Policy.

They will also buy back your books anytime no matter where you bought them from.

**For more information, please call: 1-310-506-8569**

### Purchasing Books from Amazon

Many students prefer to purchase their books (used or new) on Amazon. If doing so, please ensure you are purchasing the correct textbook (i.e. edition, volume, publisher, etc...) and when selecting a shipping option, be sure your books will arrive in time for classes. Note: Amazon offers a discounted prime membership for students; use your Pepperdine email address to receive this discount.

If you have any questions about your textbooks or suggested summer reading, feel free to reach out: 310.506.7493 or [christopher.j.jones@pepperdine.edu](mailto:christopher.j.jones@pepperdine.edu)

## STUDENT ID CARD INFORMATION

Pepperdine University issues all students an identification (ID) card when your association with Pepperdine begins. Everyone must carry their Pepperdine ID card at all times. Student ID cards are valid for seven years. The first ID card is free. Should a card become damaged, return it to One Stop and get a new card free of charge. If a card is lost or stolen, there is a \$15 fee for the replacement card, payable at the Malibu campus Cashier Office in the Thornton Administrative Center (TAC).

**DUE TO COVID-19:** Students **ARE REQUIRED** to submit a “selfie” picture for their Pepperdine ID card photo and their identification card will be provided to them later. The photo must comply with the guidelines listed below. The system will reject photos that do not comply, and you will need to submit a new photo!

**From within the GET app, take your photo with your cell phone's camera following these guidelines:**

- Your photo must show your head and shoulders of just you. Think passport or driver's license style.
- Your photo must be of you and no one else. No photobombing or group selfies, please.
- Your head must face the camera directly with your full face in view, centered in the frame. No side profile selfies.
- Please remove sunglasses, hats, and anything else that obstructs the view of your face.
  - **Exception:** items used for religious purposes.
- You must use a plain white, off-white, or light blue background.
- You must submit a color picture: no black-and-white or filtered photos.
- You must crop your picture as a square image.



## How to Upload a Selfie

### iPhone Users

1. Download the [GET Mobile App](#) on your iPhone from the iTunes Store.
2. Open the app and select Pepperdine University.
3. Login with your network credentials.
4. Create a 4-digit PIN that you'll remember. Verify it when prompted.
5. Select the Menu icon.
6. Select Settings.
7. Select Upload Photo.
8. Take your photo with your phone's camera, ensuring you are following the required guidelines. Submit when ready. You will receive an email notice once your picture has been approved.

### Android Users

1. Download the [GET Mobile App](#) on your phone from the Google Play Store.
2. Open the app and select Pepperdine University.
3. Log in with your network credentials.
4. Create an easy-to-remember, four-digit PIN. Verify your PIN when prompted.
5. Select your photo.
6. Select the Settings gear (the wheel icon in the lower right corner).
7. Select Camera, then Select Photo.
8. Take your picture with your cell phone camera, following the required Selfie Guidelines. Select Crop when ready to submit. You will receive an email notice once your picture has been approved.

Please contact the Pepperdine IT Service Desk at 310.506.HELP (4357) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year with any questions about the Pepperdine ID Card.

## VEHICLE REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

We eagerly await your arrival to Malibu and the School of Public Policy. Before arriving on campus, please see below how to register your vehicle and secure your parking permit.

The best news: [Parking permits are free!](#)

All vehicles on campus – including motorcycles, scooters, and mopeds – must be properly registered with Pepperdine University and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Compliance with the registration process includes: the proper display of a campus parking permit, possession of a valid driver's license, proof of auto insurance, and current DMV registration tags on the vehicle.

University registration may be completed at [pepperdine.thepermitstore.com](https://pepperdine.thepermitstore.com) or by going to the Public Safety office during regular business hours. Registration requires an email address, vehicle information, and a mailing address. Please review the Department of Public Safety's [Parking Information website](#) for instructions, policies, and regulations.

To order a parking permit, have your vehicle information ready and follow these instructions:

1. In the "BUY PERMITS" section, click "**Click Here.**"
2. Enter your last name and Campus Wide ID (CWID) Number where prompted.
3. Choose the permit you would like to acquire and click "**Add Item.**" If you do not know what permit you should select, please contact the Department of Public Safety at extension x4700 for assistance.
4. Review your order and if everything is correct, click "**Proceed to Check out.**" If you'd like to add another permit to your order, click "**Add More Permits.**"
5. If you've never registered before, click "**Create New Account.**"
6. Enter all required personal information and click "**Create Account.**"
7. Under the "Permit Information" section, click the drop down menu and select "**Add New Vehicle.**"
8. Enter your vehicle information (Please note: the VIN number is only required if license plate data is unavailable).
9. Click "**Add.**"
10. Under "Additional information is required for your purchase," enter your last name and your Campus Wide ID (CWID) Number. Students will enter their CWID numbers twice.
11. Click "**Continue.**"
12. Under "Delivery Options," if you would like to choose a different address to send your permit, click "**Additional Address,**" and fill out the address information. Otherwise, click "**Continue.**"
13. Read the "Terms and Conditions" and click "**I agree.**"
14. The following screen will provide you with an order number. You may print this for your records. You will also receive an email confirmation when your order has been approved and shipped.
15. Once approved, you will be able to print out a temporary permit.

To get started: [Click Here to Register!](#)



## Parking FAQ:

### *Where can I park?*

Specific parking areas for Malibu Campus students are listed in detail in the Pepperdine University Department of Public Safety Parking and Traffic Regulations posted online. There are enough parking spaces on campus, even though they may not always be immediately adjacent to where you want to park. When a close parking space is not available, please consider taking the shuttle.

### *How much does a parking permit cost?*

Parking permits are currently **free**. You may obtain as many vehicle permits as you have vehicles registered in your name (or in the name of any other member of your immediate family). You may not register any vehicle that is not registered to you or another member of your immediate family.

### *Do I need a visitor's pass for the weekend?*

Visitors of students, who are staying for the weekend, must be registered with Housing and Residence Life. A visitor who will be staying Sunday night into Monday morning will be issued a visitor's parking pass from one of the entrance booths, good for 24 hours. Visitors who will not be staying in to Monday morning do not need a visitor's pass.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Department of Public Safety at 310.506.4700.

## IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION

***Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and updated rules and regulations, please check the Office of International Student Services “OISS” COVID-19 FAQ websites for the most up to date information on VISA and related travel/arrival information (including Quarantine updates)!***

[COVID-19 Prospective Students FAQ](#)

[COVID-19 International Student FAQ](#)

[COVID-19 International Student FAQ #2](#)

[International Student Town Hall Meeting \(Video\)](#)

The [Office of International Student Services](#) (OISS) and the School of Public Policy welcomes our newly admitted international Waves to Pepperdine University! It is an honor to help you as you transition to and make Pepperdine University your new home. In order to help you best, there are some important next steps we ask you to follow:

### **Important First Step: Utilize WaveNet**

Until now you have been communicating with Pepperdine via your personal email. Now that you are an official Pepperdine Wave, ALL communication from the University will be sent to your unique Pepperdine email address and can be accessed through the University portal known as WaveNet. WaveNet serves as a single, unifying location for Pepperdine news and services, such as your student account, class registration, email, campus resources, etc.

Next Steps...

### **Request your Pepperdine I-20**

The Form I-20 is the document that you must present at the U.S. embassy or consulate in order to apply for your F-1 visa. Please consult the instructions available on the embassy or consulate website where you intend to apply and review the interview wait time for the location where you will apply. F-1 visas can be issued up to 120 days in advance of your course of study start date. Allow sufficient time to obtain your visa by requesting your Form I-20 as soon as possible.



International Student Data:

<https://oiss.pepperdine.edu/istart/controllers/start/start.cfm>

## Apply for Your F-1 Visa

All persons who intend to visit the United States temporarily to pursue a full course of study at an academic institution must be classified as an alien in F-1 student-visa status. Click on the tab below for a checklist of the steps you must take to obtain your visa and admission to the U.S.

### [How to Obtain your F-1 Visa and Status](#)

## Arrival Checklist

Within **one week** of your program start date, you must submit the following documents to OISS in order to report your status to the US government. Please complete, scan, and email the documents to [OISSNewGraduateStudent@pepperdine.edu](mailto:OISSNewGraduateStudent@pepperdine.edu). All documents must be sent all at once, under one cover.

1. Copy of your passport, including dependents
2. Copy of your F-1 visa, including dependents
3. Copy of [I-94](#), including dependents
4. SEVIS [Contract](#) completed and signed

*NOTE: Illegible copies of documents will not be accepted.*

Information Technology has been working with International Programs to create a solution for students and applicants who may have difficulty accessing their Pepperdine email through [email.pepperdine.edu](mailto:email.pepperdine.edu).

Alternate email page: Students, Faculty, Staff, and Applicants can now use [failsafe.pepperdine.edu](mailto:failsafe.pepperdine.edu) to access their Pepperdine email. Information Technology strongly encourages our community to use [email.pepperdine.edu](mailto:email.pepperdine.edu) as this will provide the best user experience. [Failsafe.pepperdine.edu](mailto:failsafe.pepperdine.edu) was designed as an alternate method for the small number of users that have difficulty accessing their email via [email.epperdine.edu](mailto:email.epperdine.edu).

When accessing FailSafe, you will log in with your full email address as your username, e.g. [first.last@pepperdine.edu](mailto:first.last@pepperdine.edu). To learn more, please visit the FailSafe website at <https://community.pepperdine.edu/it/tools/email/googlemail/failsafe.htm>



## SPP STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Office of Program Services and Admissions invites you to review the variety of [student organizations](#) available for professional and personal development and to further cultivate and explore your policy knowledge and expertise.



### **Association of Environmental Professionals**

The Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) will create a welcoming space for those interested in environmental policy. Members will have the opportunity to learn and network with members of the National and California Associations of Environmental Professionals (NAEP and CAEP). AEP will also work to promote sustainability on the Pepperdine Campus.

### **Christianity and Public Policy**

Christianity and Public Policy (CPP) is a student organization dedicated to the practical application of the Christian faith in the public square through deliberation, examination of Biblical and other literary text, community involvement, and fellowship.

### **Churchill Society**

The Churchill Society is a student organization dedicated to the study of leadership, prudence, and community in public policy. They are a social and philanthropic body that believes that education is not just found inside the classroom, but through many interactions with scholars and professionals. Their mission is to work with current policy students, alumni, and other Pepperdine University grad students to build a forum that fosters networking and professional growing experiences.

### **International City/County Management Association Student Chapter**

In collaboration with SPP's Davenport Institute for Public Leadership and Civic Engagement, Pepperdine is host to a student chapter of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). Student members are offered a number of resources including: access to ICMA online, which includes research

and job postings; free registration for the ICMA annual conference, guidance from Rod Gould, former city manager of Santa Monica, who serves as a professional mentor for the chapter; and on-campus speaking engagements with local government leaders. ICMA is the professional and educational association for appointed local government administrators throughout the world, making this an excellent opportunity to build a network of contacts with local government administrators both in California and across the country.

### ***Pepperdine Policy Review***

The *Pepperdine Policy Review* (PPR) is a student-run journal that showcases the best scholarly work of School of Public Policy students at Pepperdine University. It features articles, commentaries, opinion pieces, and book reviews that address a variety of issues from health care and national security to political philosophy. The mission of the Pepperdine Policy Review is to publish the best scholarly research, innovative policy solutions, and insightful commentary that School of Public Policy students have to offer. All articles are thoroughly reviewed by student editors and must meet rigorous academic standards.

### **Pepperdine University Chapter of Pi Alpha Alpha**

Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA), the National Honor Society of Public Affairs and Administration, encourages and recognizes outstanding scholarship and accomplishment in public policy, to promote the advancement of education and practice in the art and science of public policy, and to foster integrity, professionalism and creative performance in the conduct of governmental and related public service activities. PAA membership identifies those with the highest performance levels in educational programs preparing them for public service careers. The application process for Pi Alpha Alpha begins in both September and January.

### **Politics in Public Policy (PiPP)**

Politics in Public Policy (PiPP) provides a forum to develop graduate students' understanding of how politics and political climates play a role in shaping public policy. It is founded on the principle that quality public policy begins with—and depends on—constructive political discussion. The goal of this organization is to facilitate a diverse range of conversations through student-to-student dialogue. This organization seeks to honor the School of Public Policy's firm commitment to ideological diversity, made possible by exposing students to ideologically diverse perspectives and viewpoints relevant to present day issues and enduring policy debates.

### **Women in Public Policy**

Women in Public Policy (WPP) is a student organization established to promote the development of women in the academic and professional arenas with an emphasis on ethics and leadership. Through a blend of guest speakers, community involvement, social activities, and seminars, WPP supports and encourages women as they tackle unique challenges in public policy

## SPP “Maximum Flexibility Strategy” - Fall 2020

*Background:*

<https://www.pepperdine.edu/coronavirus/school-updates/spp-maximum-flexibility-strategy.htm>

On Friday, May 15, President Gash announced Pepperdine University’s plans for fall classes. Dubbed the “[Pepperdine Restoration Plan](#),” the outline includes a number of academic and logistical elements, built around the intention of hosting on-ground or in-person classes for the fall semester. For more than a month, the staff and faculty at SPP have been considering a variety of options for teaching this fall. Now that the University-wide “Restoration Plan” has been declared, we can integrate our existing game plan with Pepperdine’s.

Aligning with the Restoration Plan, SPP’s outline for the fall focuses on the safety of you, our students. We are calling it our “[Maximum Flexibility Strategy](#),” and it is intended to give you the maximum number of choices as you decide what is best for you and your family as the COVID-19 crisis plays out.

### **Campus Operations Health and Safety Planning**

Pepperdine University affirms that each student is the heart of the educational enterprise, and this is true for each of our five schools. While the specifics of the University’s plans to make our learning and living spaces as safe as possible are still being finalized, over the last month, SPP has evaluated the capacity of each of our classrooms under a six-foot social distancing mandate. Common areas, libraries, and living areas are also being assessed for their compliance with these regulations. As you can imagine, if social distancing remains in place for the fall, the capacity of our classrooms, dorms, and common areas will drop significantly. Our fall semester class schedule must accommodate this possibility.

I invite you to read the “Restoration Plan” announcement to learn more about the University’s program for “testing/tracing/treating/cleaning,” which SPP will be a part of. ***These plans are being developed by University leadership in consultation with public health experts and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.***

While an extensive set of health and safety protocols will be provided to the entire community in advance of the fall semester, the key elements of these health and safety protocols for all campuses are briefly enumerated below. More details can be found in the Pepperdine Restoration Plan.

**Test.** Pepperdine will implement an effective testing strategy consistent with health agency guidance and best infection control and prevention practices, which includes securing sufficient testing materials to implement this strategy and respond to changing circumstances.

**Treat.** Treatment efforts will ensure Pepperdine maintains the ability to address typical health concerns as well as COVID-19 cases. The Student Health Center is being enhanced through the addition of more medical professionals and the procurement of extra medical supplies, including therapeutics and vaccines

as they become available. The Counseling Center will provide services for students experiencing COVID-related anxieties and other mental health concerns.

**Trace.** Pepperdine’s comprehensive contact tracing program will utilize an expansive, trained response team and technology best suited for our campuses.

**Separate.** Reduced class sizes, face coverings, grab-and-go dining, and the elimination of large gatherings are some of the modifications that characterize Pepperdine’s readiness for a safe, on-campus experience. Additionally, sufficient space for isolation and quarantine needs is being identified.

**Operate.** Academic delivery, housing practices, retail operations, student life, and campus infrastructure will be modified to ensure health, safety, and excellence in this adapted environment. This includes an expanded use of classroom technology, contactless transactions, athletic team and fine arts infection control plans, and limitations on crowds consistent with the guidance of public health officials.

**Clean.** Enhanced cleaning protocols will be executed on Pepperdine’s campuses, addressing increased frequency of cleaning, a focus on high-touch areas, and the use of CDC-recommended cleaning agents and infection control practices. Hand sanitizer stations will be widely available across campus.

#### **The SPP “[Maximum Flexibility Strategy](#)”**

Over the last several months, we have all learned a lot about online education. We included a question about student experiences in the Spring 2020 teacher evaluations, and we have considered this feedback. This June SPP was preparing to offer our annual “DC Policy Scholars” class at Pepperdine’s Washington, DC campus, but the decision was made to transition that three-unit class to online. It marks SPP’s first class to be held fully online. This will be followed by the July class, which will also be fully online due to the pandemic.

As we deliberate over how we will offer fall semester classes, we have asked SPP faculty and staff to consider several other important questions:

1. How do we keep our students, faculty, and staff safe?
2. How do we engage and teach our students who may have medical vulnerabilities?
3. How do we engage and protect our staff and faculty who may have medical vulnerabilities?
4. How do we engage and teach our international students who may not be able to make it to campus by the start of classes?
5. How do we engage and teach in classrooms that may be limited to as few as 12 students because of social distancing?
6. How do we engage and teach students in the event of a possible “second wave,” which may shift all Pepperdine classes to online later in the semester?
7. How can we accommodate students who may test positive for the virus during the semester, even if asymptomatic and still able to participate?

**The “[Maximum Flexibility Strategy](#)” we’re developing for the fall semester is defined by a simple premise: students will be able to access every class we offer in the fall online with a number of classes**

**offered in “dual modality” (both online and in-person). A significant number of courses (particularly elective courses for returning students) will be offered online only.**

Working closely with our faculty over this past month, we are in the process of creating a fall semester class schedule in three “modalities” where:

1. Some classes (including at least one elective in each specialization) will be fully online. These classes will be designed as online courses and taught using online tools, including the Zoom platform and SPP’s learning management system, Courses. Essentially, we are creating an “online block” of classes from which you can select. This will allow us to access outstanding faculty for the fall who might otherwise not be able to teach due to concerns over travel and health circumstances.
2. Several classes will be taught via “dual modality” in classrooms that have been updated with new video technology—offering all students the chance to participate either in person or online. These courses will be taught in person in Malibu by the professor with simultaneous online sharing of the classroom, which will allow off-site students to participate and SPP to bridge classrooms to accommodate larger classes.
3. Several classes will be taught in a “hybrid” format with several “on-ground” sessions scheduled throughout the semester and the rest of the coursework offered online.
4. Because we want to maximize student access to course content and sessions, any classes that are offered in this dual mode will be recorded and archived on the class website. Recorded classes will allow students who are facing exceptional situations to access the information asynchronously as needed and for all students to review the content to enhance learning.

On this second point, and as part of the Restoration Plan, Pepperdine is making a significant investment this summer in a University-wide update of most classrooms with Cleartech camera/mic systems along with a secure recording/streaming technology platform by Panopto. Beginning in June, Pepperdine will be installing these platforms across the Malibu campus as well as our other campus locations—200 classrooms in all.

To be clear, while we are planning to offer these classes online, most will be taught synchronously (a few will have asynchronous/recorded sessions), which is to say, students participating online will do so during the scheduled class session. Your faculty are currently planning their syllabi and lecture plans around this larger strategy.

By the start of fall classes, we will have learned even more about how we can provide you with the best online learning experience possible while preserving the best aspects of the person-to-person experience that defines our program. ***We see these plans as a short-term response to the current state of the COVID-19 crisis and plan to be fully back together in January, although those decisions will not be made until later in the fall.***

# Preparing #Wavemakers in Policy and Politics



See your future differently from here.

For an era marked by political polarization and distrust, the Pepperdine School of Public Policy prepares public leaders who can work across differences and across sectors to create sustainable policy solutions. We do this via America's unique graduate curriculum, balancing quantitative course work with rigorous study of the Great Ideas, equipping public leaders who analyze our toughest policy challenges historically and philosophically, as well as quantitatively. We call these kinds of leaders "Wavemakers"—those who seek ways to keep the "public" in public policy.