

OUR MISSION

The mission of Harvard Kennedy School is to strengthen democratic governance around the world by preparing individuals for public leadership and by generating ideas that provide the answers to our most challenging public problems.

The Edward S. Mason Program Mid-Career Master in Public Administration (more commonly known as the Mason Program) is the School's flagship international program.

Each year, 65 to 75 demonstrated leaders from developing, newly industrialized, and transitional economy countries participate in this intensive one-year master's degree program designed to prepare them to address the world's most compelling development challenges.

The emphasis of the Program is on developing the broad range of analytical and leadership skills required to initiate and to implement major political, social or economic change.



UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon (Class of 1985), speaking at the Mason Program 50th anniversary celebration in New York, November 2008.
© 2008 Martha Stewart

EDWARD S. MASON PROGRAM
79 JFK Street, Mailbox 15
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA
www.hks.harvard.edu/degrees/masters/mc-mpa/mason

 HARVARD Kennedy School
JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

JOHN F. KENNEDY
SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT



EDWARD S. MASON PROGRAM

MID-CAREER MASTER IN
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



*Changing the World.
One Leader at a Time*

EDWARD S. MASON PROGRAM



HARVARD Kennedy School
JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

Curriculum

The Mason Program is an intensive one-year course of study leading to the degree of Master in Public Administration.

The emphasis of the Mason Program is on developing the broad range of analytical and leadership skills required to initiate and to implement major political, social and economic change.

The Mason Program begins with two intensive Summer sessions. In the first session, known as the Mason Summer Seminar, participants use cases developed by the Kennedy School faculty as well as cases drawn from their own professional experience to explore questions of leadership, strategic management, communication, and policy decision-making.

In the second summer session, known as the MPA Summer Program, participants develop their knowledge of applied economics, quantitative analysis, political institutions, and globalization.

The content of the two semesters of graduate study that follow the summer sessions is largely determined by the student. The school requires that each candidate for the one-year Mid-Career MPA (MPA/MC) degree complete at least one course in three fundamental skill areas: strategic management, political advocacy/leadership, and quantitative methods. The remaining five (or more) courses are selected by the student to serve his or her unique intellectual and professional objectives.



President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf addressing the HKS community in Sept. 2006.
© 2006 Martha Stewart

Students

Students of the Mason Program bring an impressive range of backgrounds and experience to Harvard. The diversity of perspective within the class enriches the experience of each participant, while broadening the community life of the Kennedy School.

Students come from all across Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Eastern and Central Europe, and the former Soviet Union, and they are engaged in every aspect of economic, social, and political development.

A typical class includes experienced professionals who have assumed leadership roles in education, energy, defense, housing, transportation, foreign affairs, public enterprise, rural and urban development, environmental preservation, central banking, journalism, politics, and economic planning.

Alumni

Alumni of the Mason Program are innovators and leaders in public, private, and nonprofit sectors worldwide. Graduates of the Mason Program have returned to their countries to become presidents, prime ministers, cabinet ministers, NGO directors, central bank governors, chief executives, and highly competitive senior-level government officials. Others have been elected mayors, governors and members of the parliament. Still others have joined international organizations and regional development banks. Several alumni have become head of state of their countries including Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of Liberia (Class of 1971); Felipe Calderón, President of Mexico (Class of 2000); Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore (Class of 1980); Sir Donald Tsang, Chief Executive of Hong Kong (Class of 1982); and Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj, President of Mongolia (Class of 2002).

Admissions & Financial Aid

Candidates to the Mason Program must hold citizenship from a developing, newly industrialized or transitional economy country, have seven years or more of relevant full-time professional experience at the time of application, and present a score of at least 250 on the computer version (or 600 on the paper version, or 100 on the internet version) of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Applications will be evaluated based on a variety of criteria, including quality of professional experience, prior academic performance, potential for influencing public decisions, and evidence of English language proficiency.

For more information please visit our website (<http://www.hks.harvard.edu/mason>), including instructions for applying online and application deadline.

The Harvard Kennedy School generally expects students to fund their studies through a combination of personal resources and government, corporate or grant support. The School provides a limited number of full and partial scholarships for which international students are eligible.

Please refer to the School's financial services website (<http://www.hks.harvard.edu/degrees/sfs>) for further information regarding available funds and fellowships.

For more information, please contact the Mason Program at:
Phone: (617) 495-2133; Fax: (617) 495-9671
E-mail: ldprograms@hks.harvard.edu