



## **Frequently Asked Questions about Valdosta State University's Doctor of Public Administration Online Degree Program**

**Q.) *What is the length of the program?***

A.) The program is 54 hours long and typically takes 5-7 years to complete.

**Q.) *Does your program admit throughout the year?***

A.) No, we offer admission once a year, in the fall semester only

**Q.) *What is the application deadline?***

A.) April 15<sup>th</sup>

**Q.) *What is the program structure in reference to hours needed?***

A.) Core classes – 15 hrs.; Methods – 9 hrs.; Concentration area – 15 hrs.; Guided electives – 6 hrs.; Final Project 9 hrs.

**Q.) *How many hours can I transfer in from another DPA program?***

A.) Up to 15 hours may be transferred in from credits beyond your first graduate degree. The student is responsible for requesting that a transcript be sent to VSU' Graduate School after the course(s) is/are completed and the grade(s) is/are posted.

**Q.) *If transferring coursework into the program, how old can it be?***

A.) The coursework has to be within 7 years of the completion of our program (your graduation date).

**Q.) *Can a military course count as transfer credit?***

A.) A military course can be substituted but it has to be ACE recommended for graduate credit and the student must have a grade.

**Q.) *How much time is allowed to complete the program?***

A.) You are allowed seven years to complete all coursework and five years to complete your dissertation after admission to candidacy.

**Q.) *Is it possible to receive an extension on the timeframe allowed?***

A. Yes, only once and for no more than 1 year.

**Q.) *Who decides on the topic of the dissertation?***

A. The student consults with their chair and members of chcons make

up a total 9 semester ho

**Q.) *How much weight is given to the dissertation?***

A.) You cannot graduate from this program without it. It is your exit program.

**Q.) How long does it take to come off of a probationary period?**

A.) 9 graded hours with no grade below a B.

**Q.) What test is required for the DPA program?**

A.) None. The GRE is an **optional** test. You must have a GRE within the last 5 years, if over 5 years, you must provide a copy of your test scores for consideration. It would be best to refer to the Graduate School for clarification on this matter. If you can find your official GRE test scores (check your transcripts) you can use them providing the score is high enough.

**Q.) To be considered for regular admission what is the minimum?**

A.) Graduate GPA must be 3.5 or higher

**Q.) Can I be admitted as an irregular student?**

A.) No. Irregular students are not accepted in the DPA program.

**Q.) I attended multiple schools while working on my undergrad. Do I need to send all transcripts or will the transcripts from the degree granting institution suffice?**

A.) All official transcripts must be sent.

**Q.) I'm in the military and deployed. If I add my local and home state residency what arncy w0 0)T0 Tc 0 Tw**



