

Hunter College, City University of New York
Master of Urban Planning Program
FACT SHEET
Updated: June 6, 2018

Tuition and Fees (for a full-time student for one academic year; 2017-18 academic year)

New York State resident: \$10,756.90
 Non-New York State resident: \$19,626.90

One-Year Student Retention Rate

The one-year retention rates shown below indicate the percentage of first-year MUP students who return the next academic year. For example, the retention rate for students first enrolled in Fall 2013 reflects the percentage of those students who enrolled again in Fall 2014. Because we have a number of part-time students, the retention rate may miss students who skip a semester. For example, a student who first enrolled in Fall 2013 but skipped the Fall 2014 semester and re-enrolled in Spring 2015 would NOT be counted as retained.

Semester of First Enrollment	Number Enrolled	Number Retained After 1 Year	One-Year Retention Rate
Fall 2009	30	23	76.7%
Spr 2010	14	12	85.7%
Fall 2010	30	26	86.7%
Spr 2011	17	12	70.6%
Fall 2011	29	22	75.9%
Spr 2012	20	19	95.0%
Fall 2012	38	31	81.6%
Spr 2013	15	14	93.3%
Fall 2013	25	22	88.0%
Spr 2014	16	14	87.5%
Fall 2014	33	26	79.0%
Spr 2015	11	10	91.0%
Fall 2015	27	23	85.2%
Spr 2016	15	12	80.0%
Fall 2016	25	23	92.0%

**NOTE: One-year retention rates do not capture students who took a semester off at the one-year mark but returned in a later semester.*

Graduation Rates

The table below shows the number of students in the entering classes of Fall 2009 through Spring 2013 and the number of students from those entering classes who graduated (both 4-year and total graduation rates are shown). The data in the table below are shown by entering class; the end of the table shows data for all the entering classes combined. (NOTE: Figures for “enrolled” exclude applicants who formally accepted admission offer but did not register for any courses.)

Semester of Admission – Fall 2009				
	Enrolled	34		
	Graduated within 4 years	27	(79% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	27	(79% TOTAL graduation rate)	
Semester of Admission – Spring 2010				
	Enrolled	21		
	Graduated within 4 years	14	(67% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	15	(71% TOTAL graduation rate)	
Semester of Admission – Fall 2010				
	Enrolled	33		
	Graduated within 4 years	21	(64% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	21	(64% TOTAL graduation rate)	
Semester of Admission – Spring 2011				
	Enrolled	18		
	Graduated within 4 years	12	(67% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	13	(72% TOTAL graduation rate)	
Semester of Admission – Fall 2011				
	Enrolled	32		
	Graduated within 4 years	22	(69% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	23	(72% TOTAL graduation rate)	
Semester of Admission – Spring 2012				
	Enrolled	21		
	Graduated within 4 years	18	(86% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	18	(86% TOTAL graduation rate)	
Semester of Admission – Fall 2012				
	Enrolled	38		
	Graduated within 4 years	28	(74% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	28	(74% TOTAL graduation rate)	
Semester of Admission – Spring 2013				
	Enrolled	18		
	Graduated within 4 years	11	(61% 4-year graduation rate)	
	ALL graduates	13	(72: % TOTAL graduation rate)	1 student is still pursuing the degree.

Semester of Admission – Fall 2013			
	Enrolled	25	
	Graduated within 4 years	21	(84% 4-year graduation rate)
	ALL graduates	21	(84% TOTAL graduation rate) 2 students are still pursuing the degree.
TOTAL - Entering Classes of Fall 2009 – Fall 2013			
	Enrolled	240	
	Graduated within 4 years	174	(72% 4-year graduation rate)
	ALL graduates	179	(75% TOTAL graduation rate)

Number of Degrees Awarded

Number of MUP degrees awarded for the 2016 - 2017 Academic Year = 39 (includes summer 2017 graduates).

AICP Exam Pass Rate

The AICP exam is a standard certification exam in the field of urban planning. Some jobs may require you to have AICP certification, especially if you plan to work outside of New York City. Talk to your peers, mentors and professors if you have questions about whether to take the exam. You can learn more about AICP certification at these sites:

<http://www.planning.org/certification/>

<http://www.nyplanning.org/career-development/aicp/>

Two (2) Hunter MUP graduates from Fall 2011/Spring 2012 took the AICP exam within five years of graduation, and 1 passed (50% pass rate).

AICP Certification	Percent
Percentage of master's graduates taking the AICP exam within 5 years who pass, graduating class of 2012	50%

For *all* Hunter MUP graduates (a group that includes graduates from as far back as 1972), there were 60 test-takers in the period from May 2004 through May 2016, with 49 passing the exam (pass rate of 82%).

(NOTE: If a person took the exam twice and passed on the second attempt, this was counted as a pass.)

Employment in the Planning Field within One Year of Graduation

Semester/Year of Graduation		December 2011/ May 2012	December 2012/ May 2013	December 2013/ May 2014	December 2014/ May 2015	December 2015/ May 2016
Total number of graduates surveyed		25	35	48	39	24
Number responding to survey		19	32	33	23	15
Graduates employed within 1 year of graduation in a professional planning or planning-related job	Number	16	23	28	19	12
	Percent	84%	72%	85%	83%	80%
Graduates who pursued further education within 1 yr. of graduation	Number	1	1	0	0	0
	Percent	5%	3%	0%	0%	0%

Graduate Satisfaction

In more recent rounds of surveys (Fall 2012 – Fall 2016 graduates), we asked graduates to let us know how satisfied they were with the program. We received responses from 77 graduates. Here’s what they said:

- **89.8%** were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their **overall student experience** in the program.
- **92.6%** were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their **training in general urban planning knowledge**.
- **64.8%** were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their **training in urban planning skills**.
- **89.8%** were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with their **training in urban planning values and ethics**.

Student Achievement

In the sections below, we present information on student achievement from a variety of perspectives, including:

- Students’ self-reported contributions to the community and profession since graduation
- Students’ self-reported accomplishments since graduation
- A link to student and alumni profiles
- A link to MUP urban planning studio reports

Contributions to the Community and Profession

In the most recent round of surveys noted above (Fall 2012 – Fall 2016 graduates), **41% of graduates told us that they had been involved in volunteer efforts to meet community needs or provide service to the planning profession.**

The organizations and activities they contributed to as volunteers included:

Meeting Community Needs

- Working with a Business Improvement District (BID)
- Implementing a Carbon Fee and Dividend program to address climate change
- Volunteering with the town of Montpelier on community events and creating maps
- Board Member of "Bike Walk Mississippi"

- City Council District 39 Participatory Budgeting Facilitator
- Co-Chair of a mentoring committee and volunteering as a mentor for female high school students at City Polytechnic High School
- Advisory Board Member of “Raise Your City” – a social and fundraising experiment aimed at better engaging millennials in their communities
- Campaign volunteer to pass Prop A in San Francisco, which would authorize \$500 million in bonds to fund transportation projects
- Working with the NYC Real Estate Investment Cooperative to survey publicly owned buildings that could potentially be purchased by a commercial-arts cooperative, through a deal structured around redevelopment for community use
- Developed a website and organized events to distribute educational materials for a grassroots campaign in Queens (building on work completed in the student’s MUP studio course)
- Conducted planning research and writing, including neighborhood case studies, for a citywide coalition focused on rezoning issues; wrote op-eds concerning affordable housing and the intersection between planning, policing, and racial and economic justice
- Participation in local Community Board meetings
- Volunteer with local pedestrian and bicycle advocacy organization
- Secretary and Treasurer of Executive Board for nonprofit organization in Crown Heights
- Member of a neighborhood revitalization committee associated with a local housing and community development nonprofit organization
- Board member of Manhattan Community Board 9 (Chair of the Economic Development Committee; Member of Housing & Land Use Committee)
- Board service to a volunteer arts organization
- Helped start a neighborhood group that organized around issues related to Prospect Park
- Facilitated sessions for community groups in tactical urbanism for “100in1Day” event; Jane’s Walk organizer; Board member for Hamilton Community Land Trust
- Father’s Heart soup kitchen volunteer (Lower East Side)
- Made maps of citywide heating complaints for nonprofit organization that tracks heating complaints and advocates for at-risk tenants
- Helped form and lead a group of residents in the Lower East Side working to improve quality-of-life by increasing enforcement against illegal nightlife operators in the neighborhood.
- Volunteered with the Bushnell Park Foundation, the iQuilt Partnership, and the Greater Hartford Transit District, all in Hartford, CT. Provided general guidance on urban planning, zoning, transportation, and urban design as it pertains to the efforts of these organizations.
- Volunteered for a broad-based organizing group and tenants rights groups.
- Riders Alliance, strategy and transit advocacy.
- Advocacy efforts for local infrastructure improvements, specifically related to the L Train closure and re-opening of closed subway entrances in North Brooklyn; also participated in some volunteer trash clean up projects in Fall 2017.
- English-language training and letter writing at HIAS.
- Hurricane Sandy response and recovery efforts immediately following the hurricane; created a city-wide recovery program with Occupy Sandy, the Mayor’s Office of Community Affairs, FEMA, the New York Disaster Interfaith Network, and many other program partners.

Providing Service to the Planning Profession

- APA-NY Metro Chapter Transportation Committee Co-Chair
- Communications Coordinator for the APA-NY Metro Transportation Committee
- Member of the Women’s Transportation Seminar
- Volunteer ambassador for a regional urban planning and policy think tank
- Volunteer for conference of the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO)

- Member of the Young Leaders Group and Mentorship Committee for the Minnesota chapter of the Urban Land Institute
- Chair of the Seattle chapter of Young Professionals in Transportation
- Guest speaker at several planning classes since graduating
- Steering Committee member for the Long Island section of APA
- Assisted employer with organizing APA NJ Conference sessions; served as student volunteer at the National APA Conference in Seattle; helping employer organize mobile tour for New York APA conference (2017)
- APA Mentorship Program Committee
- APA NY Metro Land Use Committee; also GIS consultant and researcher for Neighbors Allied for Good Growth
- Urban Land Institute, young leaders group outreach co-chair

Student Accomplishments

In addition to telling us about the volunteer activities above in their survey responses, recent alumni also told us about the following professional accomplishments:

- "I work as an environmental planner for the largest environmental non-profit in Israel, ... in charge of the Tel Aviv district.... I'm a public representative at the district planning commission, and have contributed to the preservation of urban nature sites and open spaces within the various municipalities in the district."
- "I was recently selected for the 2015 SuperLawyers Rising Star list in the area of construction litigation."
- "I function as the first and only transportation planner on my island of Tobago where I initiated the country's first journey to work survey and traffic study."
- 2 graduates have been the recipient of the Arthur Kunz Scholarship, awarded each year to a new professional planner living/working on Long Island.
- "Since day one with the PA [Port Authority] I have been trusted to work in high profile projects."
- "I'm currently the Director of Organizing at FAC [Fifth Avenue Committee] and supervise a team of 14 amazing community organizers and tenant advocates in south Brooklyn, a position I have held for nearly three years. I will be transitioning in April to become the Executive Director of the Cooper Square Mutual Housing Association (NYC)."
- "After only six months on the job, I was recruited by another division at the agency for a new higher-level position."
- "Barney Rabinow Award for outstanding work for new employees."
- "Planned, designed and installed 9 miles of bike lanes in my first year working as a project manager after graduating from Hunter. Currently planning and designing bicycle projects for mitigation during the 2019 L Train Shutdown."
- "International Downtown Association Placemaking program award winner."
- "I have project-managed the environmental review of several City-sponsored and private rezoning

applications that shape the city.”

- “I was promoted to Executive Director in April 2017 and graduated from the CORO Neighborhood Leadership program in June 2016.”
- “Since graduating, I have helped open, and taught physics at a public charter high school. Later, I managed a regional planning process for the Hudson Valley - the Urban Action Agenda - as part of the RPAs Fourth Regional Plan. In my current position, I develop Community Solar farms across New York State, and work on a pipeline of over 1GW of renewable solar energy farms in development across the state - enough to power over 700,000 homes.”
- “AICP License, Certified Floodplain Manager License, Board of Trustees for MAC-URISA.”
- “Currently working on a new form based zoning code and mixed use building special use permit.”

Also please see our student and alumni profiles:

<http://www.hunterurban.org/students-alumni>

Graduate Urban Planning Studios

Before graduating, every MUP student must participate in a 6-credit studio course where they apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to a real-world community-based project. It is the culmination of everything they have learned at Hunter. Descriptions of past studios and full studio reports can be found here:

<http://www.hunterurban.org/studios>