

# MPA vs. MBA: How To Choose The Right Program For You

4 Big Differences Between an MPA and MBA		
Differentiators	MPA	MBA
Primary Employment Sectors	Public institutions and nonprofit organizations	Private companies and nonprofit organizations
Educational Focus	 <p>Targeted leadership and management curriculum with a focus on legal, political and public policy matters</p>	 <p>Broad-based leadership and management curriculum with a focus on business operations, finance and communication</p>
Professional Focus	 <p>Furthering the public good in innovative and sustainable ways</p>	 <p>Increasing the financial stability and profitability of organizations</p>
Average Salary	\$65,000	\$86,000

Source:  
Average salaries based on available data on Payscale.com



While an MPA and MBA both promote expertise in managing people and budgets, deciding which to pursue hinges greatly on where you want to take your career.

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