

Public Information

The Planning Accreditation Board requires this information be posted for the Master of Community and Regional Planning program.

Student Achievement

University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Master of Community and Regional Planning (MCRP) Program is committed to delivering a high-quality education that equips students for successful careers in planning across government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private practice. Our program emphasizes academic excellence, practical community engagement, and impactful research, equipping students with the skills and knowledge necessary for professional success. We assess student achievement through a multi-faceted approach using diverse metrics, including quality of student work and professional competency; stakeholder and supervisor feedback reflecting the real-world impact of student contributions; graduation rates indicating timely program completion; post-graduation employment outcomes in planning and related fields; and other related indicators.

Quality of work and professional competency:

The MCRP curriculum requires 48 credits, including 24 core course credits and 24 elective or graduation track credits. Throughout the curriculum, students engage in applied planning projects addressing real-world community challenges in Nebraska and beyond, consistent with the University's land-grant mission and the needs of local and regional communities.

During the 2024–2025 academic year, students produced professional-quality planning products through partnerships with public agencies and community stakeholders. In CRPL 840 Planning Methods and Analysis class (Fall 2024) students partnered with the City of Ogallala to produce a baseline data study supporting the city's comprehensive planning process. The project involved assembling and analyzing demographic, housing, economic, transportation, and land-use data, with particular attention to growth pressures, housing availability, and infrastructure capacity. Students produced a professional report with maps and graphics that was delivered to the city and is being used as a foundational reference for subsequent planning phases. In CRPL 991 Capstone Studio (Spring 2025), students conducted community engagement projects for the City of Ogallala. They synthesized public input into key themes, priorities, and planning implications, producing a report designed to inform policy recommendations and plan implementation strategies. This project provided students with hands-on experience in engagement design, facilitation, and translating community perspectives into actionable planning guidance. In CRPL 990 Planning Studio (Fall 2024), students collaborated with the City of Lincoln on data analysis and planning solution development for city planning initiatives. In 2025, students also worked on an Infrastructure Inventory Project with the Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND), contributing to data analysis, GIS mapping, and the development of an interactive information system. The project communicates regional water and wastewater infrastructure conditions for approximately 150 communities in Southeast Nebraska to regional, state, and federal policymakers. This experience provided students with applied training in regional-scale infrastructure planning and close collaboration with professional practitioners.

The high quality of student work has been consistently recognized by community partners, clients, and local media, underscoring the tangible impact of student contributions to planning practice and community development.

Professional experience and Internships

Students also actively participated in internships and part-time positions across both public and private sectors, including the City of Lincoln, JEO Consulting Group, Southeast Nebraska Development District, and Hanna-Keelan Associates. Through these placements, students engaged in a wide range of professional planning activities, including data analysis, comprehensive plan development, stakeholder meeting facilitation, public opinion survey administration, planning literature review, site design development, GIS mapping, and participation in city council and public decision-making processes. Student performance in these professional settings was formally evaluated by site supervisors. Evaluation feedback reports consistently reflected high levels of satisfaction, with strong narrative assessments and high performance ratings, confirming students' preparedness for professional planning practice.

Research and scholarly engagement

Beyond coursework, students contributed to applied research in areas such as housing and flood mitigation, wetland conservation planning, rural healthcare access, and pedestrian safety and transportation planning in Nebraska. Several students contributed to peer-reviewed journal articles or professional reports used by federal, state, and local agencies. Student research and applied work were presented at the Nebraska Planning Conference, the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Annual Conference, and other state and national venues. These accomplishments demonstrate the program's commitment to academic excellence and applied scholarship.

Stakeholder feedback: Collaborative partners, including project clients and internship supervisors, consistently report high levels of satisfaction with student contributions. Stakeholder evaluations indicate that students meet or exceed professional expectations and deliver work products that are directly applicable to planning practice.

Table 1: Student achievement measured by stakeholder satisfaction

| Student Work | Stakeholder Satisfaction (Scale:1-5, with 5 being the highest rating) |
|---|--|
| Baseline Data Study for Comprehensive plan (Ogallala, NE) | 5 |
| Infrastructure Inventory Project (Southeast Nebraska Development District) | 5 |
| Community Development project (Ogallala, NE) | 5 |
| Housing and Flood Mitigation Project (most impacted communities in Nebraska) | 5 |
| City planning issues (City of Lincoln) | 5 |
| Student Internship/part-time work (JEO Consulting Group, City of Lincoln, Hanna-Keelan Associates, Southeast Nebraska Development District) | 5 |

This feedback highlights the real-world relevance, professional quality, and practical impact of student work.

Student graduation rate: Student graduation rates provide an important indicator of student achievement and program effectiveness. The MCRP program maintains a strong graduation record. For the entering class of 2021, 100 percent of students graduated within four years.

Post graduation employment: Graduates from the 2023–2024 academic year successfully transitioned into professional roles in planning and related fields at both regional and national levels. Alumni hold positions across a wide range of sectors, including local, regional, state, and federal government agencies; nonprofit organizations; urban planning and design consulting firms; engineering and construction firms; commercial businesses; and academic institutions. These employment outcomes demonstrate the program's effectiveness in preparing graduates for professional practice and leadership in the planning field.

2025-2026 Tuition and Fees

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|---|----------|
| In State Residents, per full-time academic year | \$14,222 |
| Out of State Residents, per full-time academic year | \$36,206 |

Student Retention Rate

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| Percentage of students who began studies in fall 2024 and continued into fall 2025 | 94% |
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Student Graduation Rate

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| Percentage of students graduating within 4 years, entering class of 2021 | 100% |
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Number of Degrees Awarded

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|---|---|
| Number of degrees awarded for 2024-2025 Academic Year | 7 |
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AICP Pass Rate

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| Percentage of master's graduates taking the AICP exam within 3 years who pass, graduating class of 2021 | 100 % |
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Employment

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| Percentage of all graduates obtaining professional planning, planning-related, or other positions within 12 months of graduation, graduating class of 2024 | 91 % |
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