

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Valparaiso University offers certificates in several fields. These stand-alone programs typically range from 15 to 30 credits. Each is designed to serve the needs of a specific professional audience and as such each has its own admission requirements. Certificate students may not be seeking a degree at Valparaiso University and are limited to eleven credits per semester (seven during each summer session).

[Information, Technology, and Communication](#) Understanding technology and its usage is critical to many professions, and demand for knowledge in this field continues to increase rapidly. To stay competitive, business, industry, government, and non-profits must hire and retain a labor force that can work creatively and efficiently with technology. At the same time, workers must be able to show present or potential employers current credentials in technical skills. To meet these and other needs, Valparaiso University offers four certificate programs in Information, Technology, and Communication.

[Geographic and Environmental Policy Systems \(GEPS\)](#) This interdisciplinary basic or advanced certificate (15 or 30 credits) prepares professionals for planning of space and environments in a variety of natural and human-made settings. The program emphasizes training in GIS software, its application to specific situations and its larger context of use (including policy). The certificate is appropriate for persons holding undergraduate and/or graduate degrees.

[Public Service and Leadership \(PSL\)](#) The PSL program is intended to create good citizens who are willing and qualified to serve their communities through participation in public service. Students are given background and training in government, social and public policy, administration, and leadership in order to prepare them as change agents who want to work with and for the public. This program is designed for individuals with a liberal arts or professional degree, an associate degree, or significant work experience who are considering or currently working in government and/or the public and non-profit sectors (NGO's). Persons wanting opportunities for continuing education in public service would also benefit from this program of study.

[Organizational Management](#) The Organizational Management program is intended for individuals who work in an administrative or supervisory capacity and who would therefore benefit from training in business-related areas, including accounting, personnel management, marketing, business law, leadership, and business ethics. The certificate is open to persons with or without an undergraduate degree. All coursework may be applied toward a business degree at Valparaiso University.

[Fundamentals of Business Minor](#) The objective of the Fundamentals for Business Minor is to introduce nonbusiness majors to the functional areas of business administration. This program is especially appropriate for students who plan to enter the job market after graduation with a traditional major from the College of Arts & Sciences.