I knew at an early age that I was being called to public service. I had a strong interest in policy and government, but didn’t know what career path was best for me. After taking PPOL V170 (Introduction to Public Affairs) in my early career at IPFW, I was immediately hooked, and that class began the start of my career in public service at the local level. Because of my B.S.P.A. degree from IPFW, I am able to have a career that allows me to shape policies that benefit our local community. It’s a dream come true for me.

–Austin Carpenter–project manager with INDOT

Will You Join Us in Doing Public Good?
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OUR VISION: DO PUBLIC GOOD
Doing public good has a reach greater than you might expect. We prepare the next generation. We nurture the public. We make an impact.

IPFW College of Education and Public Policy—our reach is endless.
DO YOU Have a Passion for Making a Difference?

EARN YOUR DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Environmental policy is a multi-disciplinary field. It draws from the sciences, political science, sociology, philosophy, communication, labor studies, and other disciplines. Environmental policy focuses on the interactions between human activity and the natural environment.

At IPFW, you can graduate with a bachelor of science in public affairs with a major in environmental policy. All public policy students take four common courses, but then specialize in their major.

Gain Hands-On Experience

All environmental policy majors are encouraged to take advantage of the Department of Public Policy’s internship program. An internship gives you the opportunity to apply coursework to real-world situations and build your résumé with professional work experience.

Internships may be completed during your junior and/or senior years. Students have completed internships with ACRES Land Trust Inc., Applied Environmental Resources, OmniSource Corporation, the St. Joseph River Watershed Initiative, and more.

GROWING JOB MARKET

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts positive growth in environmental policy careers for the next seven years, depending on the specific career focus. Check out the most recent edition of the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Outlook Handbook for specifics on job market growth in this field.

CAREER PATHS

- Air and water quality management
- Ecological consultant
- Energy management
- Environmental management
- Environmental planning
- Environmental policy
- Fishery and wildlife management
- Forestry
- Land and water conservation
- Parks and outdoor recreation
- Solid waste management
- Urban planning

POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

- Energy/utility companies
- Environmental advocacy groups
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Federal, state, and local government agencies
- Forest Service
- Land Trust Alliance
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
- International government and nonprofit agencies
- National Park Service
- National Wildlife Federation
- Nature Conservancy
- Nonprofit agencies
- Waste management and recycling companies
- Water treatment plants