

HIGHER EDUCATION

Degree Requirements

Master of Education (M.Ed.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

A minimum of 30 credits is required, and must include:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
HIED 808	Pro-Seminar in U.S. Higher Education	3
HIED 545	Foundations in Higher Education and Student Affairs	3
HIED 842	Administrative Leadership in Higher Education	3
HIED 846	College Students and Their Success	3
HIED 841 or HIED 801	Research and Assessment in Student Affairs Foundations of Institutional Research	3
Emphasis Area in Higher Education		
	Students will choose an emphasis area to tailor a program of study to fit an intended career path, in consultation with their adviser. A list of acceptable emphasis areas and their required courses is maintained by the program.	6
Electives		
	Students will choose from a list of approved electives maintained by the program office, in consultation with the student's adviser.	6
Culminating Experience		
HIED 596	Individual Studies ¹	3
Total Credits		30

¹ This course provides students the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and skills that they have developed during the program in a culminating project that, in turn, may showcase their interests and abilities as they seek employment beyond graduation. In addition, students will self-assess their relative progress towards the intended learning outcomes of the program.

Doctor of Education (D.Ed.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

The D.Ed. requires a minimum of 90 credits, of which at least 30 credits must be earned in residence at the University Park campus. A maximum of 30 credits from a completed master's degree earned at an institution that does not grant a doctorate in Higher Education may be accepted towards this minimum, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/>). A maximum of 60 credits beyond the baccalaureate may be accepted towards this minimum, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
HIED 501	Foundations of Higher Education	3
HIED 502	Diversity & Equity in Higher Education	3
HIED 552	Administration and Organization in Higher Education	3
HIED 556	Higher Education Students and Clientele	3
Specialization in Higher Education		
	Select 9 credits in additional HIED course work.	9
Theoretical/Conceptual		
	Select 9 credits from list maintained by the graduate program office.	9
Methodological		
	Select 12 credits, including at least (a) one quantitative course (e.g., STAT 500 or EDPSY 406) and (b) one qualitative course (e.g., HIED 586).	12
Proposal		
HIED 594	Research Topics (Research Proposal Topics)	3
Dissertation		
HIED 600 or HIED 610	Thesis Research Thesis Research Off Campus	15
Total Credits		60

In addition, the program may require a 9-credit internship depending on students' previous professional experiences in higher education administration. D.Ed. students must pass a qualifying examination, a comprehensive written and oral examination, and a final oral examination (the dissertation defense). Their dissertation must also be accepted by the doctoral committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

A minimum of 51 credits is required:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
HIED 501	Foundations of Higher Education	3
HIED 502	Diversity & Equity in Higher Education	3
HIED 552	Administration and Organization in Higher Education	3
HIED 556	Higher Education Students and Clientele	3
Specialization in Higher Education		
	Select 9 credits of additional HIED course work	9
Theoretical/Conceptual		
	Select 9 credits from a list maintained by the program office.	9
Methodological		
	Select 18 credits, with at least (a) one quantitative course (e.g., STAT 500 or EDPSY 406) and (b) one qualitative course (e.g., HIED 586).	18
Proposal		
HIED 594	Research Topics (Research Proposal Topics)	3
Total Credits		51

Ph.D. students must pass a qualifying examination, a comprehensive written and oral examination, and a final oral examination (the dissertation defense). Their dissertation also must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.