

HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION (M.S.)

Master of Science Program

Program Code: MS-SP

Major Code: HEA

HEGIS 0826

Higher Education Administration Department

Bacon Hall 214C, (716) 878-3789

hea.buffalostate.edu/ (<http://hea.buffalostate.edu/>)

Mission: The Higher Education Administration Department (HEA) and the Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration (HESAA) program at Buffalo State is committed to promoting access and to preparing exceptional scholars and practitioners with knowledge, skills, competencies and an ethic of care needed for sound professional practice in the twenty-first century.

Vision: The Higher Education Administration Department's (HEA) Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration (HESAA) Program is one of the most diverse programs of its kind in the United States. Concentrated on serving the educational needs of a diverse student body through a flexible program with evolving and updated curricula, the HESAA Program challenges students to become lifelong learners and leaders in the administration of higher education, student affairs, and other professional communities. As the demographics of higher education change in the 21st century, the program will provide highly prepared leaders representing diverse groups to serve the nation's institutions of higher learning at the highest levels. Many students will continue their intellectual and personal development through doctoral programs and as scholar-practitioners.

Supervised Practice: All HESAA students are required to complete two supervised practice requirements as part of the curriculum. Credit for these experiences is awarded through the completion of HEA 624: Supervised Practice I and HEA 625: Supervised Practice II. Each supervised practice should equate to no less than 150 hours of work in the field.

Supervised practice is typically completed through a traditional internship, which would equate to approximately 10 hours of work in the field over a 15-week semester. However, students who secure a Graduate Assistantship may use that position to fulfill one of the supervised practice requirements. Students who are employed full-time in higher education may also use that experience to fulfill one of the supervised practice requirements with approval from the department. For college-wide assistantships, visit <https://hea.buffalostate.edu/graduate-assistantships>, visit <https://hea.buffalostate.edu/graduate-assistantships/> .

Professional Organizations: HESAA graduates gain mentoring, networking, and professional development support through national, regional and local organizations.

Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale). Applicants who hold a bachelor's degree but do not meet the minimum GPA requirement may be granted provisional acceptance based on the additional requirements.
2. A current resume. Consideration can be given to work-related experience and involvement in the field.
3. **Three letters of recommendation**, of which at least one must be from a former faculty/instructor who can speak to your academic and classroom performance and one must be from a professional who works in student affairs or the field of higher education. Letters of recommendation should address the following:
 - How long they have known you and in what capacity.
 - Strengths and weaknesses as they relate to your academic preparedness and/or professional skills.
 - Assessment of your ability for professional work within student affairs or higher education.
4. A **Statement of Purpose** which addresses your understanding of and interest in the HESAA program, identifies qualities and characteristics you will contribute as a member of the program, and addresses your academic preparedness for graduate school work. If your GPA falls below the required 3.0 GPA, please address this in your statement of purpose. Your statement will be evaluated as a writing sample.
5. An interview with HESAA program faculty may be required.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses (27 credit hours)		
HEA 616	AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION	3
HEA 617	STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING	3
HEA 618	STUDENT AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION	3
HEA 620	PLANNING AND FINANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION	3

HEA 622	TECHNIQUES OF COUNSELING	3
HEA 624	SUPERVISED PRACTICE I	3
HEA 625	SUPERVISED PRACTICE II	3
HEA 650	ASSESSMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS	3
HEA 689	METHODS AND TECHNIQUES OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH	3
Elective Courses (9 credit hours) ¹		
Select three from of the following:		9
HEA 504	COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION	
HEA 588	TOPICS IN HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 590	INDEPENDENT STUDY	
HEA 591	GENDER, INTERSECTIONALITY, AND HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 619	MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 623	COUNSELING TECHNIQUES FOR DIVERSE CULTURES	
HEA 630	GROUP COUNSELING	
HEA 632	CAREER DEVELOPMENT	
HEA 651	THE LAW AND HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 670	THE COLLEGE STUDENT MOVEMENT 1955-1975	
HEA 694	CURRENT ISSUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 695	MASTER'S THESIS	
HEA 703	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION	
HEA 725	FUNDAMENTALS OF DATA MANAGEMENT AND DECISION SUPPORT IN HIGHER EDUCATION	

Other elective courses may be selected from related courses/workshops in various disciplines or interdisciplinary areas with adviser approval.

Total Credit Hours 36

¹ Selected under advisement

Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 36 credit hours are needed for degree completion: 27 credit hours of required coursework and 9 hours of electives. Students must complete two supervised practice experiences for credit as part of the curriculum and successfully complete the culminating experience.