The purposes of the Human Development graduate programs are to contribute to basic knowledge about human development and learning and apply this knowledge in various settings. The general areas of human development covered in courses and research include infant and early childhood development, child development, and adolescent development. Specific faculty areas of expertise and research include achievement motivation, cognitive development, developmental neuroscience, early childhood policy, language development, literacy development, peer relationships, teacher-student relationships, moral development, social development, temperament, parenting, prejudice and discrimination, and the role of culture on many aspects of development.

Human Development offers two specialization areas of study at the doctoral level, Educational Psychology and Developmental Sciences. The graduate programs and specializations prepare graduates for faculty positions at universities or research positions at institutions where research in developmental science and educational psychology is conducted. Graduates of our program have obtained positions as university professors, research scientists, program analysts, and other research-oriented occupations including research-oriented professionals in private, policy, or advocacy organizations.

**Financial Assistance**

Students requesting consideration for Financial Aid, in addition to completing the financial aid form found in the Graduate Admissions application, must submit their application by the priority deadline. All students who submit their application by December 15 will automatically be reviewed for any departmental aid. University fellowships, NIH traineeships, and Departmental assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis – more students are admitted than can be awarded funding. In recent years, only students with undergraduate GPA’s of 3.6, GRE scores above the 70th percentile, and strong letters of recommendation from academic references have been successful in obtaining Recruitment Fellowships sponsored by the Graduate School and graduate assistantships in the Department.

First priority for Departmental assistantships goes to students already admitted to the Department who have been assured financial assistance for the full course of their study. Almost all awards of fellowships and assistantships are based on previous academic performance, with little attention to need. In addition, some faculty have external grants which provide support for graduate students. Students who do not receive a fellowship or assistantship from the Department may contact the University Financial Aid office at 301-314-9000 for information about other sources of financial support.

**Admissions**

**General Requirements**

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s): Please note: EDHD requires all applicants to submit official transcripts (hard copies) to: University of Maryland, College Park, Enrollment Services Operation/Graduate Admissions, Room 0130 Mitchell Building, College Park, MD 20742
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students)

**Program-Specific Requirements**

- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

The College of Education and Graduate School require a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) at the undergraduate level. At the master’s level, a minimum GPA of 3.5 is required by the College of Education. The general Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required by the Department. Three letters of recommendation including evidence of academic potential from university faculty references are required. In addition, students must write a statement of purpose which indicates a match between student research interests and faculty expertise. Students should indicate their research interests, describe any relevant research experience, and how their experience and interests can be met by our program.

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website: www.gradschool.umd.edu/admissions
International Applicants

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Visa</th>
<th>Preferred Start Date</th>
<th>Final Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A, E, G, H, I and L visas and immigrants</td>
<td>Preferred: 15 Nov / Final: 4 Feb</td>
<td>Preferred: 30 Aug / Final: 27 Sep</td>
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Other Deadlines: Please visit the program website at http://www.education.umd.edu/HQDM/

Requirements


Facilities and Special Resources

The Washington, D.C. area and the University of Maryland are rich in resources for graduate study in human development. The faculty of the Department is multi-disciplinary, representing the broad range of developmental sciences, educational psychology, and related fields. There are programs of funded research, field service programs, and internship experiences available in cooperation with agencies and schools. The Department sponsors the Center for the Study of Children, Relationships, and Culture and manages the on-campus Center for Young Children. Faculty in the department make use of the research facilities at the Maryland Neuroimaging Center and Maryland Language Science Center. Students in the College of Education have access to the latest technology through Educational Technology Services.