HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (EDHD)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Education

Abstract

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, intergroup attitudes and relationships, language development, literacy development, peer relationships, moral development, social development, temperament, parenting, prejudice and discrimination, and the role of culture on many aspects of development.

Graduate programs in Human Development lead to the Master of Education, Master of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. The research-oriented M.A. (with thesis) and the Ph.D. degree programs in human development are designed to develop students’ scientific knowledge of human development and ability to carry out original empirical research projects. The M.Ed. and M.A. without thesis programs are designed to develop competencies in identifying implications of the scientific knowledge of human development for specific situations and contexts, particularly elementary and secondary schools.

Human Development offers two specialization areas of study at the doctoral level, Developmental Science and Educational Psychology. 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 8, 2021 (domestic) and December 1 (international) will automatically be reviewed for any departmental aid. University fellowships 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 GPAs of 3.6, outstanding research experience, 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.

Contact

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Courses: EDHD (https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/edhd/) EDMS (https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/edms/)


Admissions

ON-CAMPUS ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

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)* Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are not considered as a criterion for admission into the program. GRE scores that are submitted are made available to potential faculty advisors.
- CV/Resume
- Description of Research/Work Experience (M.A. only)
- Writing Sample (required for M.A. and Ph.D., not required for M.Ed.)

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](https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/)

**Application Deadlines**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Applicant</th>
<th>Fall Deadline</th>
<th>Spring Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Applicants</td>
<td>December 8, 2021</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Applicants</td>
<td>December 1, 2021</td>
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**RESOURCES AND LINKS:**

Program Website: [http://www.education.umd.edu/HDQM/](http://www.education.umd.edu/HDQM/)

Application Process: [gradschool.umd.edu/admissions](https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/)

**OFF-CAMPUS M.ED. ADMISSIONS INFORMATION**

The Department of Human Development & Quantitative Methodology (HDQM) at the University of Maryland will begin accepting applications on July 1, 2021 for the Fall 2022 cohort of the off-campus, 30 credit Master of Education in Human Development program. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and close on June 1, 2022.

Please contact Dr. Lauren Trakhman, Director of Outreach, at trakhman@umd.edu or Ms. Jannitta Graham, HDQM Graduate Coordinator, at jgraham7@umd.edu for further information or with any questions.

**Admissions Requirements**

- Non-refundable $75 application fee*
- Complete a graduate student on-line application, including
  - Scanned transcripts showing receipt of a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale). If you have international credentials, please provide transcript in original language with English translation, diploma and certificate. You may be required to submit TOEFL exam scores, [https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/international-admissions](https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/international-admissions)
  - Note: Official transcripts are required by the Graduate School for the final admission decision. If accepted into the University and program, applicants must send official, sealed undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all post-secondary schools attended (with 9 credits or more). Transcript(s) from the institution should be mailed to University of Maryland College Park Enrollment Services Operation, Attn: Graduate Admissions, Room 0130 Mitchell Building, College Park, MD 20742
  - 3 letters of recommendation
- Statement of purpose
- Evidence of having taken a college-level statistics class in the last five years with a grade of B- or above. If you have not, please indicate this in your statement of purpose and you will work with Dr. Trakhman to take a statistics course online in the summer before the program begins

* Subject to increase. If you were previously admitted as a Graduate Student, registered, AND completed at least one semester, you will not be charged a second application fee. To obtain a waiver you will need to indicate your previous graduate student status within the online graduate application. In the “Previous Institution” section of the application, when you enter “UMCP”, a waiver link will appear within the application. You will click on the link and be asked to certify that you previously attended the university. However, you must complete all of the paperwork for admission, as you now are entering a degree program through a new department. You must request the waiver before submitting the application.

**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.