

# INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (HIEP)

Graduate Degree Program  
College: Education

## Abstract

The Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education (HESI) program is committed to advancing the positive role education can have in society. Our faculty and students study core facets of the education system; this includes the functioning and impact of colleges and universities, student learning and development in higher education, and the enactment and implementation of K-18 and nonformal education policies in an international context. HESI offerings are characterized by a particular emphasis on social justice, diversity, policy, and system change. Our students and faculty are scholars, practitioners, change agents, and innovative leaders active in universities, as well as in national and international organizations and policy-making bodies. The program is a collaborative community that develops theory, conducts research and translates these into practice, and engages students, educators, and professionals in the advancement of education.

The HESI programs offer three areas of concentration: Higher Education; Student Affairs; and International Education Policy. Please only include one area of concentration on the application. Before applying students should familiarize themselves with each concentration area and choose the one that most closely fits their own particular needs and aspirations. The College of Education website (<http://www.education.umd.edu/>) offers descriptions of all the concentrations, faculty profiles and contact information, and is an essential resource for all applicants.

Note that, as of 2012, the HESI graduate programs are part of a new department, the Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education. Previously, Student Affairs was part of the Department of Counseling and Personnel Services and Higher Education and International Education Policy were part of the Department of Education Leadership, Higher Education, and International Education.

The International Education Policy (IEP) (<http://www.education.umd.edu/>) program offers M.A. and Ph.D. degrees designed to provide an interdisciplinary understanding of today's educational policy and practice. The focus is on the relation of education to economic, political, and social development in both developing and developed countries at local, national, regional, and global levels. The IEP program gives comprehensive attention to education, considering both formal schooling, from pre-school to higher education, as well as non-formal, adult, and community-based education.

## Financial Assistance

The Department has a very limited number of merit-based fellowships and graduate assistantships available to doctoral students. Fellowships are awarded to doctoral students in March only for the following fall semester. Assistantships are also awarded in the spring for the following fall semester, but occasionally an assistantship may become available at another time of year. A large number of assistantships are also available throughout campus, and many students regularly find assistantships in other departments and offices on campus. Both fellowships and assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis. It is to the student's advantage to apply well before the published application deadlines and to submit a complete application package if they intend to be considered

for a fellowship, assistantship, or other form of financial aid. It is a requirement that a student be admitted as a condition of eligibility. International students' applications are not considered complete and are not reviewed by the Department until they have received clearance from the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), which can take additional time. If you need information about ISSS clearance visit the ISSS website at [www.umd.edu/ies](http://www.umd.edu/ies) (<http://www.umd.edu/ies/>). For more information on financial assistance, see the department website: [www.education.umd.edu/chse/admissions/finance](http://www.education.umd.edu/chse/admissions/finance) (<http://www.education.umd.edu/chse/admissions/finance/>).

## Contact

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**Website:** <https://education.umd.edu/academics/departments/chse/hesi/international-education-policy> (<https://education.umd.edu/academics/departments/chse/hesi/international-education-policy/>)

**Courses:** EDCl (<https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/edci/>) EDCP (<https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/edcp/>) EDHI (<https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/edhi/>)

**Relationships:** Higher Education (HIED) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/higher-education-hied/>) Student Affairs (HISA) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/student-affairs-hisa/>)

## ADMISSIONS

### General Requirements

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)

- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/>))

## Program-Specific Requirements

- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- CV/Resume
- Writing Sample
- Description of Research/Work Experience
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (optional)
- Minimum Graduate GPA of 3.5 for Ph.D. applicants (some exceptions are made)

Please see the "How to Apply" (<https://education.umd.edu/admissions/graduate/phd-higher-education/>) section for details and deadlines.

## Grade Point Average (GPA)

A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 is required. A minimum graduate grade point average of 3.5 is required for doctoral programs.

## Application Deadlines

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline
<b>Domestic Applicants</b>	
US Citizens and Permanent Residents	December 16, 2025
<b>International Applicants</b>	
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A, E, G, H, I and L visas and immigrants	December 16, 2025

### RESOURCES AND LINKS:

**Program Website:** [http://www.education.umd.edu/CHSE/admissions/admission\\_criteria/](http://www.education.umd.edu/CHSE/admissions/admission_criteria/)

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

## REQUIREMENTS

- Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/international-education-policy-hiep/international-education-policy-phd/>)
- Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy, Master of Arts (M.A.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/international-education-policy-hiep/international-education-policy-ma/>)

## FACILITIES AND SPECIAL RESOURCES

Faculty and students in the Department work closely with area schools, colleges, universities, associations and other education-related organizations. Extensive resources in the Washington, D.C., area, including international agencies and non-governmental organizations, provide exceptional opportunities for internships, field experiences, and research to enhance formal course experiences.