Dear Prospective Student:

Thank you for your interest in Western Carolina University's master's program in Higher Education Student Affairs (HESA). Choosing a career in student affairs allows you the privilege to take part in shaping the lives of college students.

Our M.Ed. program in HESA emphasizes professional education that integrates academic coursework with supervised practice. The coursework incorporates theoretical constructs, practical experiences and internships, as well as electives in several areas. Our goal is to thoroughly prepare you for work as a student development specialist in all areas of university life, including orientation, residence life, student activities, multicultural student programs, Greek affairs, commuter student affairs, admissions, academic advising, financial aid, and other related services.

Ultimately, our program provides excellent preparation for immediate employment in student affairs, as well as a solid background for individuals to pursue future doctoral degrees in college student personnel or higher education.

Any students desiring admission to the M.Ed. in the HESA program must qualify based on his or her ability to complete the academic requirements of the program, personal qualifications necessary for success in the student affairs profession, and suitable goals. Approved by the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Education, our program proudly includes close interpersonal communication between faculty and students.

Our university actively supports a diverse environment with regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation or disability. In turn, Western is committed to recruiting and selecting students who are representative of our diverse and pluralistic society.

Again, thank you for your interest, and please feel free to contact me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

April L. Perry, Ph.D.
Program Director & Assistant Professor,
Higher Education Student Affairs graduate program
828.227.3283
alperry@wcu.edu

For more information on the **M.Ed program for Higher Education Student Affairs**, visit our [website](http://www.wcu.edu).