The M.Ed. in Higher Education Student Affairs has a strong focus on preparing practitioners. Therefore, WCU offers graduate students an opportunity to complete a supervised assistantship in a student affairs (or related) area at one of our approved sites.

Serving as a graduate assistant helps students better understand the curriculum as they put their knowledge to use in a professional setting. Hands-on learning will prepare students with real-world experience, opportunities, and an understanding of the demands in the field of higher education and student affairs.

Please note that full assistantships are competitive and require a student to work 20 hours per week at their assigned position. However, in some cases, splitting an assistantship or opting for a part-time position of fewer than 20 hours may also be an option. From time to time, WCU has competitive paid positions that come up that qualified students are advised to apply for.

THE FOLLOWING SITES HAVE OFFERED ASSISTANTSHIPS TO HESA GRADUATE STUDENTS:

**Academic Affairs**
- Center for Service Learning
- First-Year Experience
- International Programs & Services
- Mountain Heritage Center
- Office of Institutional Planning
- Office of Provost/Assoc. Provost
- Outward Bound (College of Education)
- The Honors College
- UP Program (students with intellectual disabilities)
- Various academic departments/units seeking research support (see HESA program director for options)

**Athletics**
- Academic Tutoring Services

**Campus Academic Resources**
- Center for Career and Professional Development
- Disability and Student Support Services
- Writing and Learning Commons

**Campus Services and Operations**
- Sustainability and Energy Management

**Division of Student Affairs**
- A.K. Hinds University Center
- Arts and Cultural Events (ACE)
- Intercultural Student Affairs
- Campus Recreation & Wellness Center
- Clubs & Organizations
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Residential Living (Grad Community Coord.)
- Student Community Ethics (Conduct)
- Student Leadership & Involvement

In order to be considered for a graduate assistantship, a completed application must be received by March 1. The graduate assistantship application is included in the admissions application.