

HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT AFFAIRS

M.ED. FACT SHEET

What We Do (Vision):

Provide students with comprehensive knowledge and experiences with which to pursue professional employment within an institution of higher education and/or a doctoral degree in Higher Education/Student Affairs.

Our Mission:

The M.Ed. in Higher Education Student Affairs (HESA) has a strong focus on developing practitioner-scholars by integrating academic coursework and theoretical constructs with supervised professional experience. Our goal is to prepare learners to be competent student development specialists in all areas of university life and to cultivate practitioners who are committed to the growth and development of all students. In order to do this, we are dedicated to facilitating learning environments where students engage in acute dialogue, critically analyze scholarly content, and further develop their own identity.

What Makes Our Program Different?

WCU's HESA Graduate Program is student-centered. Just as we teach the importance of holistic student development to aspiring student affairs professionals, we practice what we teach by facilitating meaningful classroom experiences and engaging out-of-classroom professional experiences (Internships and Graduate Assistantships).

We are an intentionally small program (cohort-based) designed to:

- Maximize faculty-student interaction
- Foster significant scholarly learning experiences for students
- Offer guaranteed paid Graduate Assistantships to all qualified, full-time students.

Curriculum

The M.Ed. in Higher Education Student Affairs requires 39 credit hours of graduate study. Full time students complete the program in two academic years including a summer internship (Fall semester start only). Students complete a common core of courses that integrate theoretical constructs and applied practitioner experiences. To learn more about the pedagogical philosophy and view the course listing and sequence, visit hesa.wcu.edu.

Admissions Timeline

- Admissions deadline: March 1. To be considered for funding, scholarships, financial aid, and graduate assistantships, a completed application must be received by March 1.
- Admissions Review Process (offers and waitlist): March 1-April 1 (cohort size limited to 15 full-time students).
- Graduate Assistant Interview and Selection Period: April 1-May 1.
- Occasionally, students are admitted who do not meet the priority deadline. Contact the Program Director for details.

Admission Requirements

- Applicants for the M.Ed. in the HESA program must have an average G.P.A. of B or higher (3.0 on a 4.0 scale), as defined by the department in upper-level undergraduate courses in the major.
- Three recommendations from former instructors and/or supervisors, who are in a position to judge the applicant's aptitude for graduate study.
- A recent Resume or CV
- A statement/essay of interest addressing the prompts within the admissions application.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is NOT required for applicants with a 3.0 GPA or higher.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

McKee G22 / 828.227.7310 / hesa.wcu.edu / hesa@wcu.edu

