

# HIGHER EDUCATION

## Degree Requirements

### Master of Education (M.Ed.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

A minimum of 30 credits is required, and must include:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
HIED 808	Pro-Seminar in U.S. Higher Education	3
HIED 545	Foundations in Higher Education and Student Affairs	3
HIED 842	Administrative Leadership in Higher Education	3
HIED 846	College Students and Their Success	3
HIED 841 or HIED 801	Research and Assessment in Student Affairs Foundations of Institutional Research	3
<i>Emphasis Area in Higher Education</i>		
	Students will choose an emphasis area to tailor a program of study to fit an intended career path, in consultation with their adviser. A list of acceptable emphasis areas and their required courses is maintained by the program.	6
<b>Electives</b>		
	Students will choose from a list of approved electives maintained by the program office, in consultation with the student's adviser.	6
<b>Culminating Experience</b>		
HIED 596	Individual Studies <sup>1</sup>	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>30</b>

<sup>1</sup> This course provides students the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and skills that they have developed during the program in a culminating project that, in turn, may showcase their interests and abilities as they seek employment beyond graduation. In addition, students will self-assess their relative progress towards the intended learning outcomes of the program.

### Doctor of Education (D.Ed.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

The D.Ed. requires a minimum of 90 credits, of which at least 30 credits must be earned in residence at the University Park campus. A maximum of 30 credits from a completed master's degree earned at an institution that does not grant a doctorate in Higher Education may be accepted towards this minimum, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/>). A maximum of 60 credits beyond the baccalaureate may be accepted towards this minimum, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/>).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
HIED 501	Foundations of Higher Education	3
HIED 502	Diversity & Equity in Higher Education	3
HIED 552	Administration and Organization in Higher Education	3
HIED 556	Higher Education Students and Clientele	3
<i>Specialization in Higher Education</i>		
	Select 9 credits in additional HIED course work.	9
<i>Theoretical/Conceptual</i>		
	Select 9 credits from list maintained by the graduate program office.	9
<i>Methodological</i>		
	Select 12 credits, including at least (a) one quantitative course (e.g., STAT 500 or EDPSY 406) and (b) one qualitative course (e.g., HIED 586).	12
<i>Proposal</i>		
HIED 594	Research Topics (Research Proposal Topics)	3
<b>Dissertation</b>		
HIED 600 or HIED 610	Thesis Research Thesis Research Off Campus	15
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

In addition, the program may require a 9-credit internship depending on students' previous professional experiences in higher education administration. D.Ed. students must pass a qualifying examination, a comprehensive written and oral examination, and a final oral examination (the dissertation defense). Their dissertation must also be accepted by the doctoral committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

### Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

A minimum of 51 credits is required:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
HIED 501	Foundations of Higher Education	3
HIED 502	Diversity & Equity in Higher Education	3
HIED 552	Administration and Organization in Higher Education	3
HIED 556	Higher Education Students and Clientele	3
<i>Specialization in Higher Education</i>		
	Select 9 credits of additional HIED course work	9
<i>Theoretical/Conceptual</i>		
	Select 9 credits from a list maintained by the program office.	9
<i>Methodological</i>		
	Select 18 credits, with at least (a) one quantitative course (e.g., STAT 500 or EDPSY 406) and (b) one qualitative course (e.g., HIED 586).	18
<i>Proposal</i>		
HIED 594	Research Topics (Research Proposal Topics)	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>51</b>

Ph.D. students must pass a qualifying examination, a comprehensive written and oral examination, and a final oral examination (the dissertation defense). Their dissertation also must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.