Ph.D. in Higher Education

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree is grounded in the concept that educational leaders should be well-informed and context sensitive professionals who make theory-based, research-supported, and data-driven decisions. The objectives of the program are: a) prepare students for administrative positions in community colleges, four-year colleges, universities, and other public and private learning environments such as business, government, and industry; b) prepare individuals for faculty positions in higher education; and c) assist doctoral students in the development of skills in assessment and evaluation, research design and quantitative/qualitative methodologies appropriate for administrative and faculty positions in postsecondary and higher education. The program consists of a minimum of 66 credit hours of study beyond the master's degree, including the completion of a dissertation, which represents a minimum of 12 credits. In addition to the content and research core, students specialize in university, community college, and student affairs administration, or policy and planning.

Admission Requirements

1. Bachelor's and master's degrees from accredited colleges or universities
2. A completed application and official copies of all college transcripts
3. Two letters of professional recommendation
4. Submission of an official copy of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT).
5. A minimum GPA of 2.75 for all work or a 3.00 for the last two years of undergraduate/graduate work
6. Evidence of a minimum of two years satisfactory teaching or administrative experience (or equivalent) preferable but not required
7. Statement of Interest
8. Indication of interest in a graduate assistantship, when applicable

Admission Process

Application forms, fees, official transcripts of all college-level work, two letters of recommendation, professional resume or vita, verification of appropriate professional experience, notification of interest in a graduate assistantship, GRE or GMAT and statement of interest should be uploaded to:

Graduate College
University of Nevada Las Vegas
4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 451017
Las Vegas, NV 89154-1017
Telephone (702) 895-3320

Financial Aid

For Information on grants, loans, and work-study opportunities contact Student Financial Services at (702) 895-3424 or toll-free 1-800-334-UNLV or the office located on the second floor of the Reynolds Student Services Complex. Fellowships, scholarships, and graduate assistantships are available through the Graduate College. Contact the Graduate College regarding requirements and deadlines for these awards. For more information, visit our website at:

http://education.unlv.edu/ercd/doct doctoral/

Admission Deadline

February 1st through March 15th — Fall Admission with Graduate Assistantship Consideration