2017 Admissions Information

STUDENT AFFAIRS GRADUATE ADMISSIONS
(Formerly College Student Personnel)

The focus of the Maryland program is on the experience of students in the higher education environment. We emphasize the diversity of students and how the environment can promote their learning and development. Both programs have emphases on research and social justice.

Master's Program
The master's program offers a thesis and non-thesis option; this is a 40 credit program (average completion is 2 years). Unique features include the Counseling/Intergroup Dialogue Practicum and the Seminar Paper or Thesis Option.

Doctoral Program
The doctoral program is approximately a 66 credit program (average full time student completion is 4-5 years). Unique features include training in research, methods, and opportunities to engage in research with faculty.

Basic Admission Criteria
We seek purposeful well-balanced professionals who are serious scholars and committed practitioners. Masters students ordinarily have a 3.0 or higher GPA, strong references, and research and goals that fit the program's focus. Doctoral students have a strong masters GPA, focused research interests, successful experience in practice, and strong professional orientation. We seek students who demonstrate a commitment to diversity and inequality in higher education.

- We require a Personal Statement/Statement of Purpose, transcript(s), GRE scores, resume, and three letters of recommendation.
- Use your personal statement to show us more than your resume. We appreciate reflection on meaningful personal or professional/academic experiences (something that made you think or has made you who you are) and/or on social identities such as race, class, gender, or sexual orientation, etc. Masters personal statements should be 3-4 pages double spaced, Ph.D. 4-5.
- Doctoral students are expected to have a master's degree in student affairs, higher education, counseling, or a closely related field.
- When submitting references, masters and doctoral applicants should include at least two recommendations from professors or faculty members who can attest to their potential for graduate level education.
- Masters students are expected to be full-time. We accept both full-time and part-time Ph.D. applicants.

Key Features of our Student Experience
- Teach undergraduate and/or graduate courses
- Engage in internship in one of the 30+ colleges in the local area or at the University of Maryland
- Work in professional offices with significant responsibilities
- Experience national professional association headquarters in Washington, D.C.
- Network in a strong national community of graduates and friends on the campus
- Conduct original research

Important Dates
November 1 2016
Last day to take GRE to ensure timely receipt of scores
December 1 2016
Deadline to apply for Fall 2017 admission
February 2017
Admission decisions are made by the middle of February
Spring 2017 (Date TBA)
Preview Days for admitted students

Coming to Visit?
If you are coming to campus and would like to visit, please send an email message to our program graduate assistant at SAGrad-GA@umd.edu. He will assist you in meeting with one of our current students and a faculty member regarding their availability to visit with you.

Website
See our website at: http://ter.ps/CSA
**Application Process**

Applying to Maryland in four easy steps!

1. Submit an online application at: [http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/application](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/application). Instructions for the Graduate School application: Under the “Educational Intent” tab select “Education: HESI: Student Affairs—HISA.” In general, our codes are CHSE (department), HESI (program level), and HiSA (area of specialization/concentration).

2. In addition to the materials requested as part of the application (letters of recommendation, statement of goals/experiences, transcripts, etc.), please upload your resume. A writing sample is not required.

3. Send transcripts and the $75 non-refundable application fee (if paying by check only), to:

   Enrollment Services Office (ESO)—Graduate Admissions
   0130 Mitchell Building
   University of Maryland
   College Park, Maryland 20742

4. For questions, notify the graduate assistant at SAGrad-GA@umd.edu.

*We encourage you to keep copies of all application materials in case there is any difficulty with the materials being received and scanned.

All applications are individually reviewed. A semi-finalist group of doctoral applicants are offered a phone interview. (There is no interview for the masters application.)

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**Assistantships / Fellowships**

Admitted students are invited to the Preview Program. Employers review resumes, students review job descriptions, and both send in preference lists. Interviews are scheduled. Over 60 assistantships were posted this year—you do not need to apply for assistantships prior to notification of admission. Twelve-month assistantship remuneration ranges from $18,200 to $20,000 plus tuition remission and health benefits. Ten-month assistantships are also available. Some doctoral students may be recommended for fellowships. If admitted, it is your decision whether to enroll full-time or part-time; we encourage you to be full-time if you can manage it. Check the webpage for more general information on assistantships.

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**Our Connection to the Higher Education Concentration at Maryland**

The Student Affairs and Higher Education concentrations work collaboratively toward joint research opportunities and course offerings. Be sure you explore the Higher Ed concentration if that is of interest to you. Higher Ed and Student Affairs are now part of the same program (Higher Education, Student Affairs, and Internat’l Ed Policy) but each concentration requires separate applications.

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**Questions ???**

Contact our Graduate Assistant at SAGrad-GA@umd.edu.

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**GRE Information**

GRE's should be taken by November 1 to ensure that you receive your scores in time to submit them with your application.

University of Maryland Code: 5814

Testudo, Maryland’s mascot, is a diamondback terrapin. Graduate students are able to get tickets to all sports events at Maryland. Go Terps!

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**Want info on other grad programs?**

Check out various Student Affairs or Higher Education programs:

ACPA: [www.myacpa.org/car/car_gradprog.cfm](http://www.myacpa.org/car/car_gradprog.cfm)

NASPA: [www.naspa.org](http://www.naspa.org)

ASHE: [www.ashe.ws](http://www.ashe.ws)
Multicultural Mission Statement

Our shared goal and responsibility is to inspire hope that our greatest human potential will emerge through understanding and living of multiculturalism, as described through:

- respecting differences among people, and acknowledging the complexities with ourselves and others;
- recognizing that we each have a race, gender, sexual orientation, class, ability, ethnicity, and so forth, which contribute to our own personal identity and our mutual interconnectedness;
- engaging in a process-oriented life journey that stimulates personal growth, development of voice, and self-knowledge;
- creating an inclusive and safe environment where multiple perspectives can be explored and expressed;
- fostering a community of active and interdependent learners committed to the intentional expression of constructive dialogue and action;
- understanding that this commitment requires courage to deal with conflict and dissonance;
- challenging ourselves and others to think critically about multiculturalism;
- sustaining a commitment for action towards the elimination of oppression and the promotion of equality, justice and freedom; and
- taking on the responsibility to become change agents working for social justice, thus nurturing hope for a better world through multiculturalism.

July 24, 1998

The Student Affairs concentration is committed to the professional preparation of student development educators in higher education environments. The program is modeled and directed by the core values of Student Development, Multiculturalism, Leadership, Scholarship and Research, and Ethical Practices.

Thank you for your interest.

Fall 2017 Application Deadline: December 1, 2016

University of Maryland Student Affairs Concentration 3214 Benjamin Building College Park, MD 20742 SAGrad-GA@umd.edu http://ter.ps/CSA

Thanks for your patience as we respond to your email!