2016 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. The master’s program is grounded in a core of counseling skills and student development theory; the doctoral program focuses on student learning and assessment of college outcomes. Both programs have emphases on research and multicultural understanding and applications.

### Important Dates
- **November 1, 2015**
  Last day to take GRE to ensure timely receipt of scores
- **December 1, 2015**
  Deadline to apply for Fall 2016 admission
- **February 2016**
  Admission decisions are made by the middle of February
- **Spring 2016 (Date TBA)**
  Preview Days for admitted students

### 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, good GRE scores, 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 multicultural understanding in higher education.

- 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.

### 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).

### Doctoral Program
- The doctoral program is approximately a 66 credit program (average full time student completion is 4-5 years).

### 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

### 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](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
   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 other supplemental materials requested as part of the application (letters of recommendation, statement of goals/experiences, 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.)

Checking Application Status
After you submit all of your materials to the ESO-Graduate Admissions Office, the University will give you a login ID. Once you receive this ID, you can check the status of your application online by logging in at https://apra.umd.edu. Please be aware that all application materials must be manually entered into the University’s system. As such, you should wait for a few days after submitting your application before checking your status online.

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

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 $18-20,000 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.

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 Internatl’l Ed Policy) but each concentration requires separate applications.

Want info on other grad programs?
Check out various Student Affairs or Higher Education programs:
ACPA: www.myacpa.org/car/car_gradprog.cfm
NASPA: www.naspa.org
ASHE: 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 2016 Application Deadline:**
**December 1, 2015**

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!