Admission Packet
College Student Development
Program

Contents:

- Application Procedures
- Program Area Goal Statement
- Personal Statement Guidelines
- Letters of Recommendation Guidelines

For best consideration apply by January 15th. Applications are still considered after that time on a space available basis.
Prospective students should complete an admissions application through the Graduate College website: https://www.applyweb.com/oksugrad/. Application materials required for the CSD program will also be submitted on-line. Applications may be submitted at any time; however, it is strongly recommended that all application materials be received prior to January 15th for best consideration in the admissions process and for graduate assistantships. We will accept unofficial copies of GRE scores, or the Miller Analogies Test scores prior to the deadline as long as official scores are received at a later date. We will also review unofficial transcripts prior to the deadline as long as official transcripts are received prior to enrolling in classes. Admissions are made on a rolling basis; students usually receive notification of admission status within 4-6 weeks after all application materials are received. Admission review is initiated when applicants are admitted to the Graduate College and their completed admission application has been referred to the program faculty. Items to be provided to the review process are listed below.

Personal Statement
A personal statement is required of all applicants (see guidelines in this packet). The personal statement will be used to assess the congruence between your goals and the OSU CSD program.

Recommendations
Three or more people (other than faculty in the OSU School of Educational Studies) should submit letters of recommendation on your behalf. Our program faculty prefers that 2 of these letters be from full time, tenure track, or tenured faculty who taught you in the classroom. At least one of your references must be from a full time tenure track or tenured faculty member who has taught you in the classroom or your application will not be accepted. If prospective students elect to have confidential recommendations, they will have waived their access to them. It is recommended that applicants follow up with their selected recommenders to ensure that all required letters have been uploaded to the application.

Test Data
Applicants should authorize a testing agency to send their scores on either the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) to the OSU Graduate College. These tests are offered at many sites, as can be determined on the Internet. We highly recommend that you take one of these tests as early as possible and send the scores immediately.

Interview
The program faculty prefer to interview candidates when possible before offering admission. Program faculty members are available for interviews throughout the year by phone and on campus in Stillwater. A completed referred application should be submitted prior to an interview.

The School of Educational Studies, in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Higher Education Act) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap, or status as a veteran, in any of its policies, practices, or procedures.
Program Area Goal Statement

College Student Development

Vision

The vision of the College Student Development Program at Oklahoma State University is to be a premier student affairs masters program in the United States, known for producing scholar-practitioners committed to applying research and student development theory to sound, ethical student affairs practice.

Goals

The College Student Development Program provides a rigorous educational experience to students who will make a difference through the leadership of student affairs organizations within colleges and universities nationwide.

Through our Masters of Science degree in College Student Development, we provide the educational experience necessary to analyze the many facets of college student development and the many issues that a wide diversity of students face during their college career.

The CSD Program seeks to enroll academically talented leaders who will learn and grow from our in and out of class experiences. Our program attracts those who seek to study student affairs from a student development perspective. We seek those who will significantly impact their institutions and the student affairs profession throughout their career through organizational leadership, scholarship, conference activity, and having a profound impact on the lives of college students.
In your Personal Statement, please address the following areas:

1. Discuss a critical issue facing students and/or institutions of higher education today? How has this issue affected your experience in higher education?
2. What are your career goals? How do these relate to the issue you presented above?
3. How would a master’s degree in College Student Development contribute to your personal and professional development?
4. What qualities, characteristics, and skills do you possess that make you a strong candidate for a master’s degree in College Student Development at OSU?
5. Why do you wish to attend the CSD Program at Oklahoma State University in particular?

Your statement should be:

- 3–4 pages in length
- Double spaced
- Typed in 12 point font
- Formatted with no less than 1-inch margins
College Student Development Curriculum

42 Credit Hours

CSD Core (24 hours)

- SDEV 5173: Student Affairs in Higher Education
- SDEV 5213: Student Development Theory
- SDEV 5233: Advanced Student Development Theory
- SDEV 5333: Effective Leadership in Student Services
- SDEV 5463: Legal Issues in Student Affairs
- SDEV 6220: Internship in Higher Education Student Personnel (6 hours)
- SDEV 5320: Individual and Group Helping Skills

Research and Inquiry (6 Hours selected from following courses)

- REMS 5013: Research Design & Methodology
- REMS 5953: Statistical Methods in Education
- SCFD 5913: Introduction to Qualitative Research

Elective Courses (12 hours, four classes selected with approval of your advisor)

You may choose from the following list, or select other courses with the approval of your advisor

- SDEV 5223: Career Development for College Students
- SCFD 5883: Educational Sociology
- SCFD 6443: Ethics and Moral Education
- SCFD 5990: Gender and Education
- SCFD 5990: Pop Culture and Education
- SCFD 5990: Religion and Education
- CSPY 5503: Multicultural Counseling
- EDLE 5813: Leadership Theory & Ethical Decision Making
- EDLE 6233: Critical Issues in Higher Education
- EDLE 5973: Foundations of Higher Education
- EDLE 6583: The Impact of College on Students and on Society
- EDLE 6683: The Community Junior College
- EDLE 6703: Finance in Higher Education
- EDLE 6870: International Issues in Higher Education
- EPSY 5713: Transpersonal Human Development
- SDEV 5000: Master’s Thesis (optional; 6 hours. If no thesis, students do a non-credit “Creative Component.”)