Oklahoma State offers a master’s degree with an emphasis in college student development for individuals who desire a career in student affairs. The program seeks to educate, inspire and make a difference with students who will improve colleges and universities through the leadership of and within student affairs organizations. The program provides students with the educational experience and skills necessary to analyze and resolve educational issues and work with a wide diversity of students.

**THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAM IS TO DEVELOP LEADERS WHO:**

- Balance theory, research and practice in the leadership of student affairs initiatives
- Develop scholar-practitioners who will advance the field and profession of student affairs
- Think critically about, and devise creative solutions for, student issues within diverse college ecosystems
- Build professional capacities within the area of student affairs administration as a part of the larger university environment

Students in the program work with academic faculty and affiliated faculty who are employed full-time as student affairs administrators.

For more than 45 years, we have placed our graduates in student affairs positions at colleges and universities across the U.S. OSU alumni are recognized as some of the most talented student affairs professionals in the country.
REQUIRED CORE CURRICULUM

- HESA 5173: Introduction to Student Affairs
- HESA 5213: Student Development Theory
- HESA 5320: Seminar in Student Development: Individual & Group Helping Skills
- HESA 5463: Legal Issues in Student Affairs
- HESA 5813: Leadership & Ethical Decision Making in Higher Education
- HESA 5213: Student Development Theory
- HESA 6220: Internship in Higher Education & Student Affairs (6 hours)
- HESA 6583: Impact of College on Students & Society

Students in this program also enroll in a capstone course, which includes a creative component and portfolio.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for admission to the program, applicants must have:

- Baccalaureate degree with at least a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale)
- Career goals that match program learning objectives

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Currently enrolled graduate students can apply for assistantships, scholarships, financial aid and travel support for professional conferences. For more information regarding College of Education, Health and Aviation Scholarships, please visit: education.okstate.edu/scholarships.

Graduate Assistant (GA) and Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) positions are available for students through a separate application process.

MORE INFORMATION

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APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis; however, application materials must be received at least six weeks prior to the semester desired to start coursework. Preference for graduate assistantship positions will be given to those candidates who submit completed applications by February 1 for a fall matriculation.

An applicant’s file will be reviewed when all materials have been received by the Graduate College and notification of the admission decision will follow prior to the start of the next semester. Students must complete and submit the following:

1. Graduate College Application
   - Visit app.it.okstate.edu/gradcollege to complete the online application
   - Submit the non-refundable application fee
   - Submit official transcripts from all previously attended institutions

2. Program Application
   - Current academic resume or curriculum vitae
   - Three letters of recommendation
   - Career objectives essay (2-3 pages, double spaced)
   - Critical issue essay (2-3 pages, double spaced)
   - Two examples of written work
   - Interview: The program faculty may request an interview with the applicant.