Applicants to the Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (with option in Higher Education) are expected to have an earned master’s degree with at least a 3.00 GPA (on a 4.00 scale) and career goals that match the learning objectives of the Higher Education & Student Affairs program. Applicants must provide the following materials:

1. A critical issue essay
   This is a 1-2 page (double-spaced in 12-point font) essay of a critical issue facing students and/or institutions of higher education today. If it is relevant, applicants may also address how this issue impacted their experience in higher education.

2. Career goals essay
   This is a 1-2 page (double-spaced in 12-point font) essay. The recommended considerations to address are:
   a. What are your career goals? How do these relate to the critical issue that you discussed?
   b. How would a Ph.D. in Higher Education contribute to your professional and personal development?
   c. What qualities, characteristics, and skills do you possess that make you a strong candidate for a Ph.D. in Higher Education through Oklahoma State University?
   d. Why do you wish to attend the Higher Education Ph.D. program through Oklahoma State University?
   e. Please briefly explain prior knowledge you may have about this particular program.

3. Transcripts of all previous and current college work

4. Three letters of recommendation
   Letters of recommendation from faculty of current or former course work are strongly preferred. At least two letters of recommendation must be from faculty of a current or former course.

5. The HESA faculty may request an interview
   For the convenience of the applicant, a requested interview may be either on-site or remote, e.g., Skype, Zoom, etc.

Applications to the HESA Ph.D. program are due March 15 for matriculation the following fall semester. Incomplete applications are not reviewed.