

PhD in Education

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



SPECIALIZATIONS

- Early Childhood Education
- Education Leadership
- Education Policy
- Educational Psychology
- Exercise, Fitness, and Health Promotion
- Higher Education
- International Education
- Learning Technologies Design Research
- Literacy and Reading
- Mathematics Education Leadership
- Multilingual/Multicultural Education
- Research Methodology
- Science Education Research
- Special Education
- Teaching and Teacher Education

The PhD in Education program at George Mason University provides advanced research training and professional study in your choice of 15 specialization areas, with course work that focuses on both theory and practice. This highly regarded doctoral program has, for more than 20 years, prepared students for leadership roles as academicians, researchers, senior-level administrators, policymakers, and practitioners.

PROGRAM FEATURES

The PhD program is notable for its individualized, interdisciplinary, and experiential approach. With the guidance of faculty advisors, students plan their own programs to meet self-defined goals.

- Selection of both a primary specialization and a secondary specialization
- Assessment via portfolio rather than comprehensive examinations
- Interaction with committed faculty in both formal and independent study
- A mentor from among current PhD students

TUITION DISCOUNTS

Students who enroll in graduate courses offered by the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) can take advantage of two tuition discounts. Please see our website for details: cehd.gmu.edu/tuitiondiscounts.

- Discount for Virginia Educators (15% off the university's approved rate)
- Discount for CEHD Out-of-State Students (approximately 40% off the university's approved rate)

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LEARN MORE AT:

cehd.gmu.edu/phd



PHD IN EDUCATION

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INFORMATION SESSIONS

Attend an information session to meet faculty and ask questions. Upcoming sessions are listed at:
cehd.gmu.edu/phd/infosessions

This page also includes an online video that provides detailed information about the PhD program.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Jan 15: To begin in the fall semester
- Oct 1: To begin in the spring semester

George Mason University's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) includes two schools: the Graduate School of Education and the School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism. CEHD offers a full range of courses, certificates, and degree programs on campus, online, and on site to more than 4,000 students each year. CEHD is fully accredited by NCATE, and all licensure programs are approved by the Virginia Department of Education.

George Mason University, located just outside of Washington, D.C., is Virginia's largest public research university.

COURSE WORK

- General Culture (3 credits)
- Educational Research (15 credits)
- Primary Specialization: Professional Knowledge and Skills (18-24 credits)
- Secondary Specialization: Area of Scholarship (12-18 credits)
- Dissertation (12 credits)

PROGRAM LENGTH

The doctoral program requires 66 credits beyond the master's degree. Students have up to five years to complete all course work and the portfolio process. Four additional years are allowed to complete the doctoral dissertation. Most full-time students complete the program in four years. The average time for part-time students is closer to six years.

PORTFOLIO REVIEW

The portfolio is an organized, coherent, and selective collection of documents that represent the scope and depth of a student's goals, plans, and accomplishments. The portfolio replaces the traditional comprehensive examination, and is assessed three times by the student's program committee. Successful completion allows the student to advance to the status of doctoral candidate.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are strongly urged to contact the PhD program prior to applying.

- A minimum of three years of successful work experience in an educational, community, or human services environment.
- Baccalaureate and master's degrees from regionally accredited institutions and official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores for the revised general test.
- Interview with the PhD Committee.
- Resume, written goals statement, three letters of recommendation, and a departmental form to indicate your intended area of specialization.
- A completed application for graduate study, which is available online at <https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now>. The application fee is nonrefundable.
- International applicants will have additional requirements.

LEARN MORE AT:

cehd.gmu.edu/phd