Why the Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration?
The Higher Education Administration (HIED) program emphasizes informed, ethical decision making in the administration of higher education. It is intended to launch its graduates into new arenas and/or higher levels of leadership in colleges and universities. Designed to accommodate both full-time and part-time students, the program provides a supportive community of student and faculty scholars who share a passion for higher education and subjects related to its administration.

Why the Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at BGSU?
BGSU’s HIED program has an outstanding academic and professional reputation and is consistently ranked among the best in the nation by major organizations in higher education and student affairs. HIED faculty are committed to teaching and are accomplished scholars in the field. The program selects students from across the U.S. and internationally with a broad range of administrative backgrounds, leading to diverse classrooms and learning experiences. Students fulfill a global understanding requirement, which broadens and diversifies their conception of higher education.

Learning outcomes
Students are expected to integrate and synthesize content across domains. Learning outcomes are achieved through engagement in course work; independent research; employment; co-curricular and professional experiences; and interaction with faculty, peers, and university leaders.

Administration and Leadership in Higher Education
Understand the history, philosophy, sociology, and law pertaining to higher education; articulate how higher education is differentiated by mission, sector, curriculum, size, and stakeholders; evaluate and apply organizational theories and models; develop effective practices and policies.

Postsecondary Students’ Learning and Development
Understand the demographic profile and trends of college students in the U.S.; analyze and critique models and theories of student learning; articulate the effect of individual and group differences and similarities; collaborate within and beyond the institution to foster student learning, growth, and development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact Higher Education Administration Program, at hesa@bgsu.edu or call (419) 372-7382.

Diversity, Equity, and Social Justice
Articulate the experiences of historically underrepresented and marginalized groups in higher education U.S.; understand issues of diversity, equity, and social justice; evaluate and create socially just policies and practices; understand how U.S. higher education is similar to and different from other higher education systems.

Inquiry: Assessment, Evaluation, and Research
Articulate paradigmatic assumptions that underlie different approaches to research, evaluation, and assessment; understand and interpret results from programmatic and institutional data; apply best practices of assessment and evaluation in postsecondary education; analyze qualitative and quantitative data to address research questions.

Program strength and uniqueness
• A commitment to values-centered educational leadership
• A zeal for involvement and advocacy in the higher education profession
• A holistic perspective of higher education that reflects an understanding of and interest in the internal campus environment, external constituents, and the global community
• Expertise in a discipline-based academic specialty in addition to a core of professional courses
• Appreciation for the practical application of both quantitative and qualitative tools of inquiry

“I am proud to be a alumnae of the BGSU HIED program. The program is both rigorous and supportive, and it allowed me to grow as an individual and a student affairs professional.”
— Beth Hoag ’16
Associate Director, Illinois Leadership Center
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
Admission requirements
The HIED doctoral program is selective and restricted to the students for whom the program faculty believe they can provide quality instruction, advising, and dissertation direction. Candidates for graduate study in HIED must have earned a master’s degree and show potential for successful completion of a doctoral degree.

Applicants are required to submit scanned copies of official transcripts from all institutions attended. Upon admission, final official transcripts from each degree granting institution must be submitted. They are also required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

All applicants must submit a statement of purpose including career goals, a current résumé or curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation. Candidates must also complete a personal interview.

International applicants are also required to submit scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). ELS program level 112 is also accepted.

What is the cost of tuition?
Please refer to www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar for the most current information on tuition and fees.

Funding options
A limited number of graduate assistantships and tuition scholarships are available for full-time students who qualify. For more information, please contact the department.

Domestic students enrolled in four (4) or more credit hours are eligible to apply for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to calculate student contribution and financial need. You may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

How to apply
Visit the BGSU Graduate College website at www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis beginning December 1.

Curriculum
The HIED program requires 63 post-master’s credit hours comprised of courses in five areas: core, research methodology, cognate, elective, and dissertation.

Core Academic Courses (15 credits)
- HIED 7105: Foundations of Higher Education
- HIED 7110: Governance and Organization of Higher Education
- HIED 7120: Administration of Higher Education
- HIED 7210: Law in Higher Education
- HIED 7310: Postsecondary Students in the U.S.

Research Methodology Courses (12 credits)
- EDFI 7510: Advanced Quantitative Methods in Education I
- EDFI 7520: Advanced Quantitative Methods in Education II
- HIED 7510: Qualitative Research Problems and Methods in Higher Education
- HIED 7520: Issues and Methods of Applied Inquiry in Higher Education

Electives (6 credit)
Any graduate-level course at BGSU can be taken as an elective. Sample electives include:
- EDFI 7010: Comparative Higher Education
- HIED 7100: Issues in Higher Education
- HIED 7130: The Organization and Administration of the Two-Year College
- HIED 7300: Leadership in Higher Education
- HIED 7330: Women in Higher Education
- HIED 7340: College and University Teaching
- HIED 7800: Equity and Justice in U.S. Higher Education

Cognate Courses (12 credit hours)
Twelve credit hours of coursework must be completed in a disciplinary or interdisciplinary cognate area selected by the student in collaboration with the program advisor. The cognate is an individualized specialization developed through completion of a sequence of related courses designed to add depth to the student’s doctoral curriculum

Dissertation Seminar (2 credit hours)
This two-semester (1 credit hour each semester) course is designed to help students prepare for the dissertation process and should be completed near the end of coursework.

Dissertation Research (variable credit hours)
A minimum of 16 credit hours of dissertation is required for the degree