Financial Aid

In addition to financial aid and payment plan options offered by Hofstra University, the EPL program offers a variety of financial aid options for those applying to the program as Phase I or Phase II candidates.

Doctoral Fellowships for Educational Leaders are designed for exceptionally qualified candidates who are currently employed in educational leadership positions, or those who will complete administrative certification requirements as part of the doctoral program. These awards offer tuition remission for qualified doctoral candidates. Applicants to the doctoral program may apply for positions as research assistants. These positions are available only to full-time students in the doctoral program; duties typically require a minimum of 15 hours/week.

Doctoral students who receive financial support are expected to provide service to the learning community through participation on one of several committees, organizing social events, participating in student recruitment activities, or developing the department newsletter. Students are also encouraged to apply for fellowships and financial incentives awarded by professional organizations, such as the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) and 100 Black Women of Long Island.

About the EdD Program Director

Mónica Byrne-Jiménez, EdD, is an associate professor at Hofstra University. She graduated from Columbia University and went on to earn a master's in educational policy from the University of Michigan. She holds a doctorate in education leadership from Teachers College, Columbia University. Before earning the doctorate, she worked in numerous urban public school settings and in school/district improvement efforts throughout the northeastern United States. Research methods, professional development, leadership, and organizational behavior are among her many teaching interests, and her current research focuses on leadership development, school improvement, ethnicity and leadership, and leadership preparation. Her work has been published through Leadership and Policy in Schools, Teachers College Press, Lambert Academic Press and online sources. She serves on the Convention Planning Committee for the University Council for Educational Administration, the leading organization for leadership preparation. Dr. Byrne-Jiménez is also president of the Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University.

For more information, please contact:
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Website: hofstra.edu/EDDleadership

For more information on applying to Hofstra, please contact:
Office of Graduate Admissions
Phone: 1-866-GRADHOF
Email: graddean@hofstra.edu
Website: hofstra.edu/gradapply
The MSEd in Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies program provides an interdisciplinary exploration of important foundational and policy issues and an introduction to educational leadership in higher education settings. The program provides flexible course delivery methods to meet the diverse needs of students. Students can complete degree requirements on-site or online, or through a combination of on-site and online courses. A distance learning (DL) class is equivalent to its on-site version.

Program Objectives
1. Provide a comprehensive understanding of leadership issues in a higher education setting.
2. Provide a thorough knowledge base of the governance and operation of an institution of higher education.
3. Explore historic and current issues involving administration and leadership at colleges and universities in the United States.
4. Explore leadership styles in higher education administration.
5. Prepare students to assume middle and senior leadership roles at institutions of higher education.
6. Prepare students for the successful implementation of college and university missions.

CAREERS
Graduates of the MSEd program may pursue a number of opportunities at colleges and universities. Depending on professional experience, students may go on to attain entry-level to upper administrative roles in a number of areas, including:
- Academic advising
- Admissions and enrollment
- Alumni relations
- Athletics and recreation
- Career counseling
- Development and fundraising
- Financial services and aid counseling
- Institutional research and planning
- Multicultural and international student initiatives
- Residential life
- Student affairs and event management
- University relations, publicity and marketing

Program Course of Study – Total Semester Hours: 36
Students typically take three courses each semester, totaling 9 semester hours. This allows students to complete the program in four semesters (fall, spring, fall, spring). Those taking online courses may progress through the program in six semesters (fall, spring, summer, fall, spring, summer).

Area 1: Concentration: Leadership in Higher Education Settings - Semester Hours: 27
- APS 370 - Introduction to Higher Education in the United States, 3 s.h.
- APS 371 - Economics and Finance of Higher Education, 3 s.h.
- APS 372 - Governance in Higher Education, 3 s.h.
- APS 373 - The Student in American Higher Education, 3 s.h.
- APS 374 - Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, 3 s.h.
- APS 375 - Contemporary Issues in Higher Education, 3 s.h.
- APS 376 - Legal and Ethical Issues in Higher Education, 3 s.h.
- APS 377 - Student Affairs Leadership in Higher Education, 3 s.h.
- APS 378 - Planning, Assessment, Accreditation in Higher Education, 3 s.h.

Area 2: Elective Hours - Semester Hours: 6
Students must choose a minimum of 6 s.h. under the advisement of the program director.

Area 3: Completion Project - Semester Hours: 3
APSS 351 - Independent Study, 3 s.h.

Admission Requirements
Applications to the MSEd in Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies are submitted electronically to the Office of Graduate Admissions at hofstra.edu/graddap. They are reviewed on a rolling basis throughout the year for enrollment during the fall, spring, or summer sessions. Applicants are required to submit the following:
- Transcripts from previously attended undergraduate and graduate institutions
- Three (5) letters of recommendation
- Detailed resume of professional experiences
- Comprehensive statement of professional goals and objectives

Scholarship Support and Internship Opportunities
The MSEd in Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies is an attractive program for current higher education professionals interested in advancing with master’s level preparation, as well as those who enter the program directly from undergraduate programs or other career settings. Application materials are reviewed to evaluate potential for success in the classroom and in the field, limited scholarships are available. While the deadline for admission is rolling, those interested in scholarship opportunities are encouraged to apply early.

Students with little or no experience working in the higher education sector are encouraged to take on internships on Hofstra’s campus and/or apply for graduate assistant positions in various Hofstra departments. Interested students should visit Hofstra’s Job Opportunities site (hofstra.edu/jobs) to learn more about available positions. Students who have been accepted to the MSEd program and have matriculated may also browse and apply for student internship/employment opportunities. Additionally, students may use those internship experiences to fulfill the APS 351 independent study course.

About the MSEd Program Director
Dr. Sean Fanelli, dean of the School of Education, is highly regarded in his expertise in higher education administration and brings to Hofstra University an exceptional breadth of leadership experience. Dr. Fanelli previously served as president of Nassau Community College for more than 28 years. During his tenure, the college grew to become the largest single-campus community college in New York. He has also held leadership positions at Westchester Community College and has served on a variety of boards and commissions, such as the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, American Council on Education, American Association of Community Colleges, and National Junior College Athletic Association. Honored for many achievements in education and administration, Dr. Fanelli is also the proud recipient of the American Association of University Professors’ Alexander Meiklejohn Award for Academic Freedom and the William J. Brieman Award from The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression.

In addition to his professional interests in higher education administration, assessment and accreditation, strategic planning, and online instruction, Dr. Fanelli has always been passionate about teaching. He holds a PhD in biological sciences from Harvard University, and has taught courses in this area throughout his career. His achievements and knowledge are invaluable assets to the MSEd in Higher Education Leadership and Policy Studies program.

For more information, please contact:
- Dr. Sean Fanelli
  Dean and Adjunct Professor, School of Education
  Email: Sean.A.Fanelli@hofstra.edu
  hofstra.edu/HELP5

The EdD in Educational and Policy Leadership (EPL) program has two strands:
- Phase 1: Professional Studies – Semester Hours: 30
  Typically, higher education students who enter the EdD program possess an earned master’s degree in higher education leadership/administration from an accredited institution, of which up to 30 s.h. can be applied to the course requirements in Phase I. For those who do not have a prior master’s degree, a master’s in higher education leadership/administration can be earned at Hofstra, either on-site or online.
- Phase II: Advanced Professional Studies – Semester Hours: 40
  Requirements consist of the doctoral core, advanced educational leadership courses and other electives. Candidates complete core requirements as a learning community. In addition to course work, candidates must satisfy residency requirements and complete written competency requirements in two areas – critical analysis and synthesis of the research analysis and design – and also satisfy residency requirements. Continuation in the program depends on satisfactory completion of each of the core and competency requirements. Students who fail to complete these requirements satisfactorily are subject to probation and/or dismissal.

Program Course of Study – Total Semester Hours: 79
The curriculum is made up of three components:
- Phase I: Professional Studies – Semester Hours: 30
- Phase II: Advanced Professional Studies – Semester Hours: 40
- Phase III: Doctoral Dissertation – Semester Hours: 9

During the final phase of the program, doctoral candidates complete in-depth inquiry projects intended to expand their understanding of important issues in higher education and/or address challenges confronting universities and colleges.

Candidate Profile
The ideal candidate has a strong commitment to improving the quality of education for all students, has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and skills (or potential for leadership), and possesses the academic ability needed to excel in a rigorous doctoral program.

Admission Requirements
Applicants must have completed a master’s degree and three years of experience in leadership, administration, or related fields, in a position that includes decision-making responsibilities. In addition to these requirements, candidates must submit the following:
- A detailed resume of professional and related experiences.
- A statement of purpose for advanced study in the context of personal and professional goals.
- Official transcripts of undergraduate and graduate study.
- An official report of scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), with scores of at least 350 on the combination of the verbal and quantitative sections.
- Three professional recommendations, submitted through the ETS Personal Potential Index service.
- An interview with the doctoral program director.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year. Be sure to check the ETS website for any updated information.

* Candidates who have yet to earn a master’s degree in higher education leadership/administration may enroll in the doctoral program while completing these studies.