Overview

Develop the competencies you need to successfully and ethically lead higher education institutions with a doctoral degree specializing in higher education leadership.

With the program’s specific focus on universities and colleges, you become a more accomplished leader with the practical knowledge needed to advance your administrative leadership career in higher education.

- Distance education allows working professionals to obtain a doctorate while remaining employed full time.
- With a cohort structure, the same group of students begins, proceeds through, and completes the program together. This fosters support and allows you to network with others across the country who hold similar positions in higher education institutions.

Curriculum

With an emphasis on applied knowledge and a specific focus on universities and colleges, you learn from renowned faculty and experienced higher education administration professionals.

With this higher education leadership Ph.D., you gain skills that can be applied immediately to professional challenges and issues.

Coursework:

- Provides a comprehensive doctoral curriculum that develops the competencies needed to successfully and ethically lead higher education institutions
- Develops research knowledge and skills to enable practitioners and administrators to become scholars/practitioners who expand the knowledge base related to higher education organizations, practice, and outcomes
- Instills and/or reinforces a commitment to the crucial engagement of diversity
- Explores ways to strengthen a commitment to access, learning, institutional mission, quality, and educational outcomes

Contact
(970) 492-4898
online.colostate.edu/contact

Delivery
Online and on campus

Credits
60 credits

Tuition
$882 per credit
- Includes Student Services
- Fees assessed separately
- Financial aid is available; eligibility determined on an individual basis

Time Frame
Can be completed in 5 years

Completion Requirements

- A minimum of 30 credits of higher education administrative curriculum
- A minimum of 30 credits of research
- Comprehensive exams, both written and oral
- Juried publication submission or presentation
- Dissertation

More Info
online.colostate.edu/degrees/higher-education-leadership-phd
How to Apply
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Education and Human Resource Studies – Higher Education Leadership Specialization

Application Deadline
Applications are considered for summer admission only. Fall and Spring admission is not available.
Summer semester: **March 1**

1 Review Admission Requirements
The higher education leadership (Ph.D.) degree requires applicants to have the following:
☐ Master’s degree from a regionally accredited institution
☐ At least two years of professional work experience in a higher education institution setting or at least two years of professional work experience within an organization that is engaged in work related to higher education
☐ The GRE scores are required for applicants that do not have a final undergraduate GPA and a master’s-level GPA of at least 3.00.

Note that meeting the minimum department standards does not ensure admission to the program. Admission to Colorado State University graduate programs is based on a number of factors, including prior academic and professional experience and the personal statement.

2 Prepare Application Materials
Prepare the materials below and upload when you apply online.

☐ **Statement of purpose**
  * Your professional and personal long-term goals
  * Why you wish to pursue doctoral studies and how this opportunity supports your long-term goals
  * Tell us about your research interests with some explanation and detail, and if there is a specific faculty member with whom you wish to work
  * A summary of how your previous experiences have prepared you to be engaged in doctoral studies
  * A brief statement of your beliefs about higher education and its relevance to society

☐ **Resume or vita**
  * Record of collegiate work, including names of institutions, periods of attendance, and degrees earned.
  * Record of all professional employment including dates of service (including military).
  * List of publications, exhibitions, awards, or other recognitions.
  * List of service activities, including professional, community, and charitable activities.

☐ **Three letters of recommendation**
Three professional recommendations are required. Recommenders should be able to speak to your current leadership ability and your ability to do doctoral work. You will provide information about your recommenders in the online application. CSU will contact them with instructions and a link to a secure form they will submit on your behalf.

3 Complete Online Application
Complete the [online graduate application](https://online.colostate.edu/apply) and pay the nonrefundable application processing fee (payable online). As soon as you have completed the required information, please submit your application. You do not need to wait for recommendations to move your application forward.

* Select “Educ & Hum Res Studies PhD/Higher Educ Leadership – Distance” when choosing the program of study.
4 Request Official Transcripts

- Request one official transcript of all collegiate work completed from every institution attended, whether or not you received a degree from those institutions. Transcripts from Colorado State University are not required. Official transcripts can either be mailed in or sent as e-transcripts.
- Send e-transcripts to: gradadmissions@colostate.edu
- Send paper copies to:
  Graduate Admissions
  Colorado State University – Office of Admissions
  1062 Campus Delivery
  Fort Collins, CO 80523-1062

5 Submit Test Scores

GRE scores are required for applicants who do not have both a cumulative undergraduate GPA and a cumulative masters/professional level GPA of at least 3.00. Cumulative GPAs are calculated using all undergraduate credits leading to completion of a bachelor’s degree and all graduate-level credits leading to completion of a master’s degree or terminal degree. If both GPAs are above 3.00, GRE scores are not required. Submit official GRE General Test scores through the Educational Testing Service (select institution code: 4075, leave the department code blank). Scores are typically received by the University 4-6 weeks after your testing date.
- All three sections — verbal, quantitative, and analytical — must be submitted. Photocopies are not accepted.
- A GRE Preparation course is available face-to-face and online through CSU.

Check Your Application Status

- View your application status at any time to ensure your application checklist is complete or to check on updates.
- Application review begins after the March 1 deadline. Admit decisions will be made by June 1. Summer courses will begin in mid-July.

Information for International Students

Official transcript translation
Ensure official copies include a certified translation into English (only one set of transcripts is required).

Official test scores
Colorado State University requires that proficiency in English language be demonstrated either by the TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE academic tests prior to admission. Please submit one of the official scores from the list below. Scores must be taken within two years prior to admission and submitted directly from the Educational Testing Service (select institution code: 4075).
- The minimum TOEFL score for admission without condition is 550 (paper-based), or 80 (internet-based).
- The minimum IELTS score for admission without condition is 6.5.
- The minimum PTE Academic score for admission without condition is 58.

In general, all applicants from countries in which English is not the official language, and who do not have an undergraduate degree from a country in which the official language is English (Canada, U.K., Australia, USA, New Zealand, etc.), must submit one of the official test scores from the list above.