Harvard University is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, an extraordinarily vital intellectual community across the Charles River from historic Boston.

Boston is the birthplace of American public education, and home to hundreds of innovative schools, nonprofit organizations, and education entrepreneurs.

Boston and Cambridge provide the ideal intellectual and professional setting for the advanced study of education.

Maybe you ...

... have been an educator for 15 years ...
manage a nonprofit organization and want to become more effective ...
just earned your bachelor’s degree in history ...
are a business owner looking for a new career ...

One thing is clear ...
... Your passion for improving the world has led you to take the next step.

Application Details

The application deadlines and decision notification dates are as follows:

**DEC 01**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION (PH.D.)**
The Doctor of Philosophy in Education online submission and materials received deadline is December 1 at 5 p.m. EST. Note that all applications for the Ph.D. must be submitted to the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

**DEC 15**

**DOCTOR OF EDUCATION LEADERSHIP (ED.L.D.)**
The Doctor of Education Leadership online submission and materials received deadline is December 15 at 11:59 p.m. EST. Decisions will be made available online by late March.

**JAN 05**

**MASTER OF EDUCATION (ED.M.) AND C.A.S. IN COUNSELING**
The master’s and C.A.S. online submission and materials received deadline is January 5 at 11:59 p.m. EST. Master’s decisions will be made available online by late March. C.A.S. decisions will be made available online in February.

Please note that applications for the Ph.D. in Education are submitted through the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

For the Ed.L.D., a select number of the most promising candidates will be invited to campus for required interviews with members of the admissions committee.

STEP 1: INTRODUCE YOURSELF
Introduce yourself to us by filling out a form at hgse.me/intro_yourself. Just as you desire to know more about HGSE, we are eager to learn more about you.

STEP 2: EXPLORE AND CONNECT
We strongly encourage you to visit our campus as part of your information-gathering process. If possible, attend one of the many admissions events we host throughout the year.

To view a complete list of ways to connect with us and sign up for an admissions event, visit: hgse.me/events_hgse.

STEP 3: APPLY
A complete online application consists of the following:

- Application form
- Application fee (paid via credit card)
- Statement of Purpose
- 3 letters of recommendation
- Résumé
- Transcript(s) from each postsecondary institution attended
- Standardized test score(s):
  - GRE (mandatory for all applicants; GMAT may be submitted instead for Ed.L.D. only)
  - TOEFL (for applicants whose native language is not English and whose baccalaureate is not from a college or university where English is the sole language of instruction)
  - IELTS may be submitted instead for Ed.L.D. and Ed.M. applicants only
- Any additional requirements as specified by the program
WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GRADUATE SCHOOL?

A graduate degree in education means different things to different people. Do you want to acquire a specific set of skills or knowledge to do your current job more effectively or transition to a new role? Are you most excited about conducting research on a specific topic in education? What will you need to accomplish during your time in graduate school to feel that the investment was worthwhile? Your answers to questions like these are critical for identifying which programs might fit.

WHAT EXPERIENCES WILL YOU BRING TO A GRADUATE PROGRAM?

Each of our students brings a unique set of experiences and perspectives to bear on the most pressing issues facing education. What have you learned — through school, work, family, volunteering, or travel — that will enhance the learning of your peers?

WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER GOALS?

Earning a graduate degree will significantly expand your career options, but it won’t automatically lead to your dream job. It is important to have a sense of what you hope to do after you complete your graduate program in order to make the most of your time while at HGSE. Start with the end goal in mind and work backward: identify careers and education roles that excite you and build on your experience, talents, and values, and see what they require. What do you have already and what are you missing?

DOES HGSE HAVE WHAT YOU NEED?

The graduate school application process is about finding the school and degree that will best serve you personally and professionally. HGSE offers 13 master’s degree programs and two doctoral programs. Read the program descriptions, browse the course catalog, look up faculty members’ profiles. Can you see yourself at HGSE?

IF YOU’RE INTERESTED IN MORE THAN ONE PROGRAM, HOW DO YOU CHOOSE?

A good place to start is by looking at the curriculum requirements for each program. These courses are an excellent indication of the broader intellectual focus of the program. This is also a good time to reconsider the original question: why are you pursuing graduate school in the first place? Perhaps the program that most sparks your interest isn’t the one you actually need. Passion is only part of the equation; practicality should play a role when you’re investing significant time and money in a degree.

FAST FACTS

- More than 100 faculty members guide about 900 students in doctoral and master’s programs each year.
- HGSE offers 13 master’s programs and two doctoral programs, leading to careers in teaching and research, school leadership, counseling, education policy, and many other fields.
- Each year more than 8,000 educational leaders from around the world participate in our professional education programs.
- Since its inception, the Harvard Graduate School of Education has graduated nearly 32,000 students.

2016–2017 ENTERING CLASS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ed.L.D. Students:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed.M./C.A.S. Students</td>
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Master’s Degree Programs

HGSE offers 13 master of education (Ed.M.) programs taught by prominent voices in education innovation and leadership. Choose a core focus area and take full advantage of Harvard’s extensive intellectual and professional resources.

- **Arts in Education**
  Educating for self-directed individuals who are interested in fashioning their own arts-related courses of study.

- **Education Policy and Management**
  Developing effective leaders by providing an atmosphere that promotes the understanding of diverse viewpoints from a wide range of disciplines.

- **Higher Education**
  Targeting those interested in higher education administration in a college or university or in policy and planning at a higher education association or agency.

- **Human Development and Psychology**
  Educating students interested in the development of children and adults and how knowledge of development can be applied to educational issues.

- **International Education Policy**
  Providing an environment for the investigation and discussion of practical approaches for improving the quality of education available to children from all backgrounds.

- **Language and Literacy** *
  Combining research and practice in reading, writing, and language development.

- **Learning and Teaching**
  Sharing interests including: students and adults as learners, the preparation and professional work of teachers, the organization of schools, and the role of communities in learning.

- **Mind, Brain, and Education**
  Targeting students interested in connecting cognition, neuroscience, and educational practice, especially involving learning, teaching, and cognitive and emotional development.

- **Prevention Science and Practice/C.A.S. in Counseling** *
  Training prevention practitioners, school guidance and adjustment counselors, and applied researchers to improve the educational, social, and emotional outcomes of children and adolescents.

- **School Leadership** *
  Educating instructional leaders who will have the capacity, skills, and knowledge to create and sustain K-12 charter, district, and pilot schools that foster the learning and well-being of all children.

- **Specialized Studies**
  Allowing students to develop an interdisciplinary program of study that meets their specific academic and professional needs.

- **Teacher Education** *
  Preparing individuals to become middle or secondary school classroom teachers in urban settings.

- **Technology, Innovation, and Education**
  Preparing students to contribute to the thoughtful design, implementation, and assessment of technology-enhanced educational innovations.

* LICENSURE COMPONENT OR OPTION
Doctoral Degree Programs

![Image](https://gse.harvard.edu/doctorate)

Doctor of Education Leadership

America needs transformative leaders in preK–12 education, individuals whose passion for educational quality and equity is matched by a firsthand knowledge of learning and development, a firm grasp of public policy issues, and the organizational management skills to translate visionary ideas into real-world success. As a graduate of the multidisciplinary Doctor of Education Leadership (Ed.L.D.) program — taught by faculty from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, the Harvard Business School, and the Harvard Kennedy School — you will be uniquely prepared for system-level leadership positions in national nonprofits and philanthropies, state and federal departments of education, mission-driven for-profits, and school systems.

The Ed.L.D. is a full-time, three-year program built on a cohort learning model. Your cohort will consist of 25 students from diverse professional backgrounds — including entrepreneurs, nonprofit directors, principals, teachers, and policy researchers — who progress through the program with you. As a student you will receive a full tuition funding package along with a stipend, work opportunities, and a paid third-year residency at a partner organization.

Doctor of Philosophy in Education

The complex challenges facing 21st-century education require researchers who work across multiple academic disciplines — economics, biology, psychology, the arts, history, and more — and translate those findings into transformative ideas for education policy reform and practice.

The Ph.D. in Education is an interdisciplinary doctoral program offered jointly by the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS). The Ph.D. in Education requires full-time study and takes an average of 5-6 years to complete. As a Ph.D. candidate, you will enjoy unrestricted access to collaborate with scholars across all Harvard graduate schools on original interdisciplinary research. In the process, you will help forge new fields of inquiry that will impact the way we teach and learn.

You will choose your individual coursework and design your original research in close consultation with your HGSE faculty adviser and dissertation committee. For Ph.D. students, Harvard provides five years of full financial support, typically for the first four years of study as well as the completion year.
Fellowships and Financial Aid

HGSE offers a number of fellowship opportunities for students, with many featuring full or half tuition support. While some awards require no additional materials in order to be considered, others may require an application. The Urban Scholars program and the Saul Zaentz Fellows Program, in particular, require a statement and are part of the online application for admission. In addition, need-based grant, loan, and employment support is available. At the doctoral level, all students are eligible to receive a multiyear full-tuition funding package. The Harvard University Presidential Scholarship provides additional support to selected Ph.D. students who show exceptional promise.

Application deadlines vary by program, with the first falling in early December; your compliance with posted deadlines will ensure that you receive full consideration for all sources of financial aid.
STUDENTS’ WORK ENVIRONMENTS PRIOR TO ENTERING HGSE

- 35% K-12 Public Schools
- 15% Nonprofit Organizations
- 12% Higher Education
- 10% Other
- 8% Current Students
- 4% NGOs
- 4% Media/Technology
- 3% Consulting
- 3% Government
- 2% Self-employed
- 2% Healthcare
- 1% Unemployed

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF HGSE STUDENTS

- 42 states and D.C.
- 48 countries