

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION | M.S.Ed.

STUDENT AFFAIRS ONLINE

Thank you for your interest in the UNK online Master of Science in Education Student Affairs degree program. UNK has established itself as a leader nationwide in the successful delivery of its online graduate degrees. Below is further information explaining this program:

Frequently Asked Questions

How is the program designed? The non-thesis Master of Science in Student Affairs is offered entirely online and residency is not required. This 36-hour program is designed for developing professionals including people in community colleges, universities, schools and health and human service agencies, or anyone who could benefit from an advanced education in Student Affairs. Because it is being offered online it is designed for students who are unable to attend traditional classes on the UNK campus or elsewhere.

What are the prerequisites? If you have an undergraduate degree you may apply to our program. You must have an undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or higher. If below this minimum, you will be asked to write a response to address this standard in the application process. You must maintain a 3.0 GPA (B) and no grade below a C can count towards the Master's degree. International students are required to take the TOEFL and must earn a minimum of 550 on the paper exam or an 80 on the online exam.

How are the courses designed? At the start of most classes, you will be given lectures as streamed links, as well as a list of assignments and their due dates. Other requirements such as forums and online chat sessions will depend on the course and its instructors. Course descriptions can be seen at the following link: http://unkcms.unk.edu/academic_affairs/academic_publications/catalogs.php#grad

What is the course rotation? A variety of course topics are offered each semester. Not every class is offered every semester so if you miss a course, you may have to wait a few semesters before it's offered again. You can take semesters off but all coursework for the degree must be completed within a 10-year time frame. No more than two years can pass in-between taking coursework or you would need to reapply to the program.

Will my credits transfer? Students are allowed to transfer up to 9 hours into their degree path. For graduate credits to be accepted in the Master's degree program, the Department of Counseling and School Psychology must approve the quality and suitability as equal to or superior to the offerings available at UNK. Approval of the Office of Graduate Studies and Research is also required for the transfer of graduate work taken elsewhere, and copies of official transcripts must be sent to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. All transfer hours must meet the following requirements:

1. All courses must be Graduate level credits from an accredited institution.
2. Courses must be completed with a grade of B or better and must not have been graded as pass/fail.
3. All courses on your degree path must be completed within the given 10-year time frame.
4. Courses cannot have been used in obtaining another degree.

How long will it take to complete my degree? A total of 36 hours must be completed. The usual time to complete these hours is two and a half to three years. Credits received from previous coursework will apply toward the degree for up to 10 years.

Do I need to be accepted into the program to register for classes? You may apply as a non-degree seeking student, register and take up to 6 hours in one semester before being accepted into the program. Only 12 non-degree credits can be accepted towards the degree.

What are the tuition and fees? In-State Tuition (2014-2015*): For Nebraska students, tuition for a graduate online course is \$275.00 per credit hour, plus fees of \$64 per credit hour, and a records fee of \$4 per semester. Out-of-State Distance Students (2014-2015*): For out-of-state students, tuition for a graduate distance course is \$480.00 per credit hour, plus fees of \$64 per credit hour, and a records fee of \$4 per semester. *Subject to change. For current cost estimates, please use the following link:

http://www.unk.edu/offices/financial_aid/graduate_student_semester_cost_estimator.php

Is UNK accredited? UNK is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. Every five years UNK undergoes a formal Academic Program Review. This graduate program is a University of Nebraska degree so you will earn a Master of Science degree from the University of Nebraska.

Course Materials Required: All of our courses are accessed through Blackboard and a high-speed internet connection is required. Recommended: Microsoft Office suite. Once a student you can order this program package from the UNK Technology Store at a discounted student rate. www.unk.edu/offices/its/technology_store/ Books are required in most courses. Most books can be ordered through UNK's on-campus bookstore, The Antelope Bookstore at www.loperbooks.com

Is there an Exit Exam? You will be required to take a comprehensive exam covering the coursework within your program. Students take the exam their last semester and have to identify an appropriate proctor.

How do I get started?

1. If you would like to visit with a program coordinator, contact Dr. Matt Mims (mimsmj@unk.edu).
2. Apply for admission online at www.unk.edu/admissions/apply.php or call 800-717-7881 for a paper application (\$45 application fee required). Application deadlines are: June 15, October 15, March 15; deadlines are firm.
3. Review of your application may take up to two months, once admitted you may register for classes by accessing UNK's MyBlue registration system at <https://myblue.nebraska.edu>.

What should I expect to provide for the application process? You will need to upload a resume, personal statement, response to three diversity vignettes and a response if your undergraduate GPA was lower than 2.75. You will be required to request transcripts from every undergraduate school you attended. You will also provide email address for three personal references.

What is involved with practicum and internship? Your advisor will work closely with you to cooperatively develop practicum and internship opportunities in your local community.

Once again, thank you for your interest in the UNK's online M.S. in Student Affairs degree. For more information, you may go to: http://www.unk.edu/academics/csp/counselor_education.php, email unkcsp@unk.edu, or call 308-865-8508.