

HIGHER EDUCATION

MEd DEGREE • PhD DEGREE • EdD DEGREE

The Loyola University Chicago Higher Education program is a critical interdisciplinary program that prepares **practitioner-scholars** to embrace, articulate, and develop the real connections between theory and practice. Through the study of social, cultural, philosophical, and historical issues in higher education, our graduate programs are based on the premise that regardless of role (student affairs practitioners, administrators, faculty, etc.), all higher education professionals ideally operate from a position of community cultural wealth, funds of knowledge, and intellectual acumen—all elements that are relational and in constant interaction with one another. Our faculty embrace an authentic hybrid approach to the study of higher education that bridges theory to practice in all of its iterations, placing equal, dynamic value on the multiple, complex roles that higher education professionals and faculty play in this field.

Loyola Higher Education faculty and students recognize the power of alternative ways of knowing and being and stress the significance of students' experiential knowledge. Students in this program explore the fundamental importance of power, identity, intersectionality, advocacy, and activism in education. Our faculty specialize in a broad range of topics including but not limited to: social justice and education, critical theory and pedagogy, contexts of activism in education, identity formation, student development, agency, Multiracial students' experiences in education, undocumented students' experiences in education, African American and Latinx experiences in education, academic labor, international higher education, and democracy and education.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

- The MEd, EdD, and PhD degrees offer full-time enrollment. *Average time to completion: 2 years (MEd) 2.5 years (EdD), and 4–5 years (PhD)*
- The MEd and PhD degrees also offer part-time enrollment. *Average time to completion: 3 years (MEd) and 5–6 years (PhD)*

The Loyola University Chicago Higher Education program offers two paths for completion of a Master's Degree—the Water Tower Campus Higher Education Program and the Lake County Higher Education Program. Both paths serve one mission—the advancement of social justice through higher education—with different program deliveries (in-person, online, and hybrid). Courses are taught by Loyola's esteemed faculty and senior-level higher education administrators to provide a rigorous and comprehensive curricular experience. Other features include: networking opportunities, intensive mentoring, and the opportunity to study abroad at Loyola's Rome Center campus.

INTERNSHIPS/RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

MEd students participate in at least one internship experience during their studies, providing opportunities to gain experience in different areas such as student affairs and academic affairs at different 2- and 4-year colleges in the Chicagoland area.

All graduate students have the opportunity to participate in collaborative research projects. Doctoral (EdD and PhD) students are required to write a dissertation that contributes original knowledge to the field of higher education.

EXPECTATIONS AFTER GRADUATION

For MEd graduates, career options include a wide variety of administrative positions in colleges, universities, community-based organizations, and non-profit organizations, including residence hall director, orientation advisor, academic advisor, campus activities advisor, and program director/manager.

EdD graduates are well positioned for leadership in post-secondary contexts.

For PhD graduates, career options include: mid- to senior-level administrative roles in higher education dean of students, vice president for student affairs, and director positions in enrollment management, alumni affairs, admissions, financial aid, academic advising, orientation, residence life, campus activities, and student life. Doctoral graduates also pursue university faculty positions that focus on teaching and/or research. Additionally, doctoral graduates work as policy and research analysts in education-related government and non-government agencies.

PROGRAM DISTINCTIONS

Career services are available at [LUC.edu/career](https://luc.edu/career).

Loyola University Chicago's School of Education prepares practitioner-scholars in the service of social justice and promotes the Jesuit ideals of quality, intellectual rigor, and service to others.

The School of Education is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), now the Council for the Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP).

STUDENT LIFE

The Higher Education Student Association (HESA) provides professional development programming, social activities, and service opportunities throughout the academic year. Additionally, the higher education program hosts the *Journal of Critical Scholarship in Higher Education and Student Affairs (JCSHESA)*.

FINANCIAL AID

Begin the financial aid process by completing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.ed.gov.

Students can also apply for graduate assistantship positions through the Division of Student Development, [LUC.edu/studentdevelopment/assistantships](https://luc.edu/studentdevelopment/assistantships).

Learn more about the financial aid process at [LUC.edu/education/financialaid](https://luc.edu/education/financialaid).

LEARN MORE

APPLICATION INFORMATION AND DEADLINES

gpem.LUC.edu/apply

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information about the academic program, or to arrange a visit, please contact:

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820 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

PHONE: 312.915.6800

EMAIL: SchIEduc@LUC.edu

ONLINE: [LUC.edu/education](https://luc.edu/education)

Send all supporting documents to:

Graduate and Professional
Enrollment Management
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820 N. Michigan Avenue
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EMAIL: GradApp@LUC.edu

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