

Frequently Asked Questions Fall 2009

When are the application deadlines?

The application deadlines are January 1 and March 1 for admission the following fall. We do not admit new students in the spring semester or for summer admission. Admissions applications are processed by the ASU Graduate College (<http://graduate.asu.edu/>). All applications must include: a) GRE scores; b) a personal statement; c) a curriculum vitae or resume; and d) three (3) letters of recommendation.

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed by the admissions committee.

Do I have to take the GRE?

All applicants are required to submit GRE scores. Students who have taken the GRE within the past five years can request that ETS send an official score report to the Graduate College.

Is there a minimum GRE score for admission?

We do not have a minimum GRE score for admission into the PhD program.

What are the English proficiency requirements for international applicants?

If you are from a country whose native language is not English, you must provide evidence of English proficiency as indicated by acceptable scores on the TOEFL or IELTS as follows:

- The minimum TOEFL requirement is 550 (PBT) or 213 (CBT) or 83 (iBT);
- The minimum IELTS is an overall band score of 6.5 with no individual band below a 6.0.

Applicants who have met *one* of the following four conditions at a regionally accredited college/university in the United States do not need to submit evidence of English proficiency:

1. Earned a bachelor's degree or higher;
2. Completed a minimum of 12 semester hours of graduate level study with a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.00 or higher;
3. Completed at least 90 undergraduate semester credit hours with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher;
4. Completed the American English and Culture Program Advanced Level II and have the recommendation of the Director of the AECF.

Do I need to have a Masters degree before applying for the PhD program?

You are not required to have a Masters degree before applying to the PhD program. If you have a Masters degree in a related field you can transfer up to 30 credit hours of courses from your degree and up to 12 additional hours provided the credits were not required for your Masters degree. However, if you withdraw from a Masters degree program without completing the degree to start a PhD program, you will only be able to transfer a total of 12 credit hours.

Can I take courses before I am admitted to the PhD program?

You can take up to 12 credit hours before entering a PhD program as a non-degree student. *Please be advised that taking courses as a non-degree student before you apply does not guarantee admission.*

Does your program accommodate distance learning students?

Currently, the ELPS PhD program does not have accommodations for distance learning. The vast majority of our classes meet in-person. Most classes are held in the evenings from 4:40 to 7:30 pm on the Tempe campus. Some of our classes, including classes in the Policy Studies Core, meet from 1:40 to 4:30 in the afternoon.

Can I take classes outside of the Division of Advanced Studies in Policy, Leadership and Curriculum?

ELPS PhD students are encouraged to take courses in other divisions in the Mary Lou Fulton Graduate School of Education and across the ASU campus. Once admitted, students work with an adviser that helps them devise a program of study related to their research and career goals, which can and should include courses offered in other academic units as relevant.

How much does the PhD program cost?

Tuition and fees (resident and non-resident) depend on the number of credits a student is enrolled in and are subject to change. The tuition schedule for the 2009-2010 academic year is available here: <http://www.asu.edu/admissions/tuitionandfees/fall09graduate.htm>

What types of funding are available for graduate students?

The Division of Advanced Studies in Policy, Leadership and Curriculum (PLC) has a very limited amount of funding it can offer to graduate students. Most students are supported through Graduate Assistantships (GA) or Teaching Assistantships (TA). A 10 hour per week appointment as a GA or a TA provides: 1) a full non-resident tuition and fees stipend (if

needed); 2) *half* of resident tuition and fees; and 3) a modest 9-month stipend. A 20 hour per week appointment as a GA or TA provides full non-resident and resident tuition and a modest 9-month stipend. Funding decisions for new and continuing students are made in the Spring semester, after admissions are completed. We do not award funding packages to prospective students prior to admission.

Unfortunately, we cannot provide funding for all of our eligible graduate students. Graduate students who are employed in PLC generally receive a 10 hour per week appointment in PLC and pursue additional employment opportunities in the College of Education and other departments on campus.

ASU staff members are eligible for tuition waivers for in-state tuition and fees. More information about tuition waivers is available from the ASU Human Resources Office.

If I have additional questions, who should I contact?

For specific questions about admission and program requirements, academic advising, and other information about the PhD program, contact the PhD Program Coordinator, Dr. Jeanne M. Powers (jeanne.powers@asu.edu). For questions about application procedures and processing, contact Sarah Houston (shouston@asu.edu).