

Master of Science in Academic Advising

College of Education Kansas State University

The Master of Science in Academic Advising is designed for advising professionals and future professional advisors seeking to enhance their knowledge and ability to work more effectively with postsecondary students in their academic and career planning. All courses are offered online, which serves graduate students in Kansas and students both across and outside the country.

The mission of the Kansas State University as a comprehensive, research, land grant institution is first serving students and the people of Kansas, and also the nation and the world. To fulfill the mission, the objective of the educational program is to develop individuals capable of applying enlightened judgment in their professional, personal, and social lives.

The College of Education at Kansas State University is committed to preparing educators, including advisors to be knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision-makers through:

Delivery of exemplary instruction to students at the undergraduate and graduate levels;
Production, interpretation, and dissemination of sound and useful research and scholarship;
Leadership, collaboration, and service within the profession; and
Promotion, understanding, and celebration of diversity.

The program provides a coherently structured set of courses for professional education. Furthermore, it emphasizes the need to recognize the contributions of diversity, theory, practice, and research to professional practice. Specifically, the advising program's mission is to contribute to college student development and learning, advising of students, and theory-driven and research-guided practice.

Curricular experiences include interpersonal relations; needs and characteristics of specific groups of students; research methods; learning principles; advising strategies; college student development; career development; and multicultural aspects of academic advising. Admission to graduate study is granted by the Dean of the Graduate School upon the recommendation of the faculty in the graduate program. To be considered for admission into the degree program, the applicant must meet the requirements presented below.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students admitted to the Master of Science in Academic Advising must apply to the KSU Graduate School and be admitted as degree-seeking students. Admission decisions will be based on a combination of factors, including prior academic achievement, the nature of students' academic preparation, and the relatedness of the program's offering to students' goals.

- a. A completed Graduate School application. The application materials may be obtained online at <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/gsperspective/apply/> or from the Office of Graduate Studies.

- b. A statement of objectives which includes:
Your reasons for seeking this degree; your intended area of specialization within the program; any research interests; past and present employment; and future professional plans. If you have a request for a certain advisor, indicate that preference in the statement of objectives.
- c. A description of relevant professional experience within education or a related field.
- d. Completion of a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
- e. Two OFFICIAL transcripts from the institution awarding your bachelor's degree and two OFFICIAL transcripts from all institutions at which any graduate credits were completed. *Copies that are stamped "issued to student" cannot be accepted.* (If you have credits from K-State, we can obtain a copy of the K-State transcript at no cost to you)
- f. In general, a student with a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 from an accredited institution can expect to be admitted to the master's degree program. Students who have successfully completed the Graduate Certificate in Academic Advising would, upon application, be admitted to the proposed master's degree program. Students who have completed only a bachelor's degree and have a cumulative grade point average below a 3.0 would be required to submit Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT) scores.
- g. Graduate School Application Fee
Domestic Students A \$40 application fee is required for all domestic students; ***your application will not be processed without this fee.*** Please make a check payable to the K-State Graduate School, and include it with your application. If you are applying online, you may pay by credit card.

International Students A \$55 application fee is required; ***your application will not be processed without this fee.*** Please pay with an *international cashier's check or money order* (in U.S. funds) to the K-State Graduate School, and include it with your application. We cannot accept cash or personal checks from international students. If you are applying online, you may pay by credit card.

The application materials are to be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies, NOT the department.

Office of Graduate Studies
College of Education
18 Bluemont Hall
1100 Mid-Campus Drive
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506-5301

Application Deadlines. Although the College of Education accepts applications throughout the year, the following deadlines are established to allow the faculty adequate time to review the completed applications. Failure to meet the deadline could delay admission to the program.

Domestic Students

Fall semester	—	March 1
Spring semester	—	October 1
Summer semester	—	February 1

International Students

Fall semester	—	February 1
Spring semester	—	August 1
Summer semester	—	December 1

International Students. All international students admitted to the Graduate School must demonstrate the same level of achievement as U.S. students. That is, they must hold a degree from an established institution comparable to a college or university in the United States, have an outstanding undergraduate record, have the demonstrated ability to do graduate work, and give evidence of language proficiency sufficient for the pursuit of a graduate degree. Admission may be denied students from technical schools, which may provide excellent training in special areas but do not offer degrees equivalent to those of colleges and universities. As a rule, international students are not admitted to non-degree status (that is, as special students). Questions about the qualifications of international students should be directed to the Graduate School.

International applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate competence in the English language. All international applicants must include with their application materials an official report of their scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The TOEFL is offered several times a year throughout the world by the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey. International applicants are advised to take the TOEFL as early as possible to avoid delays in processing their applications for admission. Further information is available from the Graduate School. Those who have received a degree in the last two years from a United States college or university are exempt from this requirement.

A score of at least 550 (213 on the computer-based test) on the TOEFL is required to be considered for admission to the Graduate School. Applicants with scores of 600 (250 on the computer-based test) or above may be considered for regular admission. Applicants with scores between 550/213 and 599/249 may be admitted provisionally and must at the time of their enrollment demonstrate proficiency in reading and writing English and in understanding spoken American English to the satisfaction of the Graduate School. Those who do not meet the minimum proficiency standard may be recommended for enrollment in University English courses or for part-time English courses offered by the English Language Program (ELP) on campus. Those who are determined to need substantial work in English will be required to participate in the ELP. Intensive English training for students who have TOEFL scores below 550/213 is also available through the ELP.

For additional information regarding the Master of Science in Academic Advising, please contact:

Department of Special Education, Counseling, and Student Affairs
369 Bluemont Hall
1100 Mid-Campus Drive
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506-5312
785-532-5541
cjwalker@ksu.edu

Non-Degree Status. An applicant may wish to take a course prior to being admitted in a degree program. In these cases, an individual must be admitted for non-degree status.

No more than nine credit hours earned as a non-degree student may be applied for an advanced degree if the applicant is later admitted to a degree program. It is to the applicant's advantage to apply for admission into the degree program as soon as possible after deciding to pursue a degree.

Master's Degree Procedures Handbook. Following admittance to a graduate program, students should obtain the Procedures Handbook from the Graduate Studies in the College of Education Web site, found at <http://coe.k-state.edu>. This handbook includes information and guidelines about advising, the program of study, enrollment, transfer credits, the final oral/written exam, and required approval forms.

Graduate candidates are also required to read the KSU Graduate Student Handbook upon admission to a graduate program. The Web site for the handbook is <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/gscurrent/handbook/index.htm>.

Financial Aid. Questions about financial assistance should be directed to the Student Financial Assistance Office, 104 Fairchild Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506, 785-532-6420, finaid@ksu.edu.

M.S. IN ACADEMIC ADVISING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND CURRICULUM

(30 credit hours)

The program's conceptual framework emphasizes development of "highly skilled and educated" professional advisors who through their work prepare undergraduates for their future careers. Curricular experiences include interpersonal relations, needs and characteristics of specific groups of students, research methods, learning principles, advising strategies, college student development, career development and multicultural aspects of advising.

Program Objectives

Candidates will:

1. Know and apply advising strategies to institutional advising programs and individual advising.
2. Assess psychosocial factors that impact student learning.
3. Design interventions to assist students in overcoming learning barriers and enhancing learning approaches to improve their academic performance.
4. Know and apply student development theories to academic advising.
5. Know and apply theories of career development and related constructs to assist students with their academic and career planning.
6. Understand the influence of multicultural factors on the advising relationship and the content of advising with students.
7. Understand the needs and characteristics of specific groups of students (e.g., students with learning disabilities, student athletes, adult students, exploratory students) and apply this to academic advising.
8. Know and demonstrate skills and strategies needed to enhance communication and relationship building in advising.
9. Apply strategies for assessing academic advising programs and services.
10. Develop and implement advisor training programs.
11. Evaluate the performance of academic advisors.

Program Curriculum

Core Courses (27 hours)

- EDCEP 752 College Student Athletes (3)
- EDCEP 816 Research Methods (3)
- EDCEP 829 Learning Principles (3)
- EDCEP 835 Foundations of Academic Advising (3)
- EDCEP 838 The College Student and the College Environment (3)
- EDCEP 851 Multicultural Aspects of Academic Advising (3)
- EDCEP 863 Trends in Career Development (3)
- EDCEP 886 Seminar/Interpersonal Relations for Academic Advising (3)
- EDSP 886 Seminar/College Students with Special Needs (3)

Restricted Elective (3 hours)

- EDCEP 761 Intercollegiate Athletics and the College Student Athlete (3)
- EDCEP 886 Seminar/Administration of Academic Advising (3)

Faculty of Academic Advising

For additional information on this program, contact any faculty member listed with telephone and e-mail information.

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