

### Higher Education Student Affairs International Student Frequently Asked Questions

The following are answers to questions frequently asked by international students interested in the Higher Education Student Affairs M.Ed. program at Western Carolina University. Such prospective students should thoroughly review our [program website](#) and the [International Applicant FAQ](#) section of the Graduate School website.

Do we have the ability to waive the application fee?

- No. All applicants are required to pay the application fee. There is no waiver.

Are international applicants required to have a transcript evaluation?

- Yes. Regardless of the type of instruction an international applicant received a transcript evaluation is required. A list of approved agencies for such evaluations can be found on the Graduate School website. There is not waiver for this requirement.

Are there funds to help cover the cost of the transcript evaluation?

- No. All associated costs must be paid by the applicant.

Is a test of language proficiency required?

- Yes. Official scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the academic version of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Duolingo English Test are required for applicants from countries where English is not the primary language (scores cannot be more than 2 years old). A minimum score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 79 (Internet-based) is required on the TOEFL. A minimum overall band score of 6.5 is required on IELTS, with a minimum band score of 6 on each of the four modules. More details are available on the Graduate School website. This required cannot be waived.

Are there scholarships available for international students?

- No specific scholarships to our program are currently available for international students. All available scholarship information is available at [WCU Scholarship Portal](#).

Where do I find information about being an international student at WCU?

- Details can be found on our [WCU Global website](#)

Are international students eligible for a graduate assistantship?

- All HESA students have a graduate assistantship. These are paid.

Do graduate assistantships come with tuition remission / waiver?

- No. While they are paid, students must pay tuition and fees.

Is a specific undergraduate major required for admission to the program?

- No. We accept students from a wide-range of educational backgrounds. We have no specific requirements regarding undergraduate major.

For more information, [email hesa@wcu.edu](mailto:hesa@wcu.edu)