



Graduate School

# Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership

## Doctor of Philosophy



### Leadership, Diversity and Social Justice

The Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership (HESAL) doctoral program is designed to prepare students for administration, leadership, academic and policy careers. Our graduates are employed as senior-level administrators, institutional researchers, policy analysts and/or faculty members. The Ph.D. program builds on the foundation of

a master's degree by expanding and deepening students' understanding of scholarly writing; research design and methodology; leadership and administration; institutional and public policy; student development; and social justice, equity and inclusion. Students are encouraged to conduct a dissertation study that contributes to the scholarly literature and fills important practical gaps.

### Career Pathway

Graduates may pursue many positions in higher education, such as:

- Higher education administrator
- Student affairs leader
- Institutional researcher
- Policy analyst
- University faculty member

### Degree Options

Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership is also offered as a 15-credit doctoral minor.

### Program Details

- Greeley Campus Delivery
- Credits Required: 64
- Time to completion: Four years/eight semesters
- Classes Start: Fall Semester

## Related Programs

- Educational Leadership, Ed.D.
- Educational Psychology, Ph.D.
- School Psychology, Ph.D.
- Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership, M.A.

## Cost and Value

Tuition rates are based on the 2020-21 Academic Year:

Colorado Resident Tuition: \$665 per credit hour plus fees.

Nonresident Tuition: \$1,258 per credit hour plus fees.

UNC is regularly called out as a top value for both resident and nonresident students, and the university offers financial aid packages for qualified students. For more information, visit [UNCO.EDU/COSTS](https://unco.edu/costs).

## What Students Say

“Balance is a value that allows me to coexist in my multiple roles as a graduate student mother of color. The HESAL program and community provide that space I need to be successful in each of my identities.”

– Reyna Anaya, Graduate of HESAL master's program and second year Ph.D. student

## Financing your Education

UNC offers a variety of financial support options, including:

- Several competitive graduate assistantships
- Competitive scholarships specific to the HESAL program
- Colorado resident tuition for students from 15 western states is offered through the Western Regional Graduate Program. To see if you qualify visit [UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL/FUNDING/WESTERN-REGIONAL-GRADUATE-PROGRAM.ASPX](https://unco.edu/graduate-school/funding/western-regional-graduate-program.aspx)
- For more information contact Financial Aid at [UNCO.EDU/OFA](mailto:unco.edu/ofa).

## Faculty Spotlight

### Amy Li, PhD.

Amy Li's research focuses on higher education finance and policy, including performance funding, financial aid and student loan debt, “free” college, and state policy adoption. Dr. Li's work appears in *Research in Higher Education*, the *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, the *Palgrave International Handbook of Higher Education Policy and Governance*, the *ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, with forthcoming work in *Community College Review*. She has secured funding from the American Educational Research Association, the AccessLex Institute / Association for Institutional Research, and from the Institute of Education Sciences as a Pre-Doctoral Fellow.



## Program Contact

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## About UNC Graduate School

The University of Northern Colorado, founded in 1889, is Colorado's right-sized doctoral research university, serving a diverse student body around the world. Given its size, program mix, and mission, UNC offers students the access and opportunities of a small college along with the nationally recognized programs, research funding and facilities that come with being a leading U.S. university. Students seeking preparation for a world (and workplace) full of opportunities and options, complexities and cultures, diversity and demands, will find faculty mentors and excited fellow students to engage with here at UNC.