I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The Ph.D. in Higher Education at Rutgers University offers focused study of the complexities of colleges and universities, their missions, contexts, challenges, and successes. This interdisciplinary degree program brings together distinguished higher education scholars representing the Graduate School of Education (GSE), the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy (BSPPP), the School of Arts and Sciences (SAS), the School of Communication and Information (SCI), the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences (SEBS), and the School of Management and Labor Relations (SMLR). Affiliated faculty members are higher education experts in the fields of, for example: education, law, communication, organizational studies, public policy, and economics.

The Ph.D. in Higher Education program prepares higher education researchers who will take their scholarship, knowledge, and research skills into a range of higher education settings such as universities and colleges, state or federal governing and coordinating boards, independent research and policy organizations, and foundations.

II. APPLICATION DEADLINES:
Fall admission - December 15 deadline

III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: To be considered for admission to the program, applicants must provide the following before the deadline:
1. Personal statement
2. Writing sample
3. Three letters of recommendation (at least 2 from full-time faculty members)
4. GRE test scores
   (Any test scores submitted must be less than 5 years old as of the application deadline. Scores must be official, not self-reported.)
5. Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts showing degrees awarded.

Preferred qualifications:
- Earned master's degree in higher education or related area
- Strong undergraduate and graduate GPA and GRE scores
- 3 to 5 years full-time experience in higher education setting(s)
- Higher education research and/or assessment experience

IV. HOW TO APPLY: Applications are submitted online at the Graduate Admissions website: http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu/
1. Click on "Apply Now" and follow the instructions given.
2. Choose "Degree Application", for Application Type.
3. For Program Name choose "Higher Education" from the drop down menu.
4. Across from “Higher Education 16507”, click the link for the Fall semester.
5. Complete the application by providing the requested information.
6. Supporting materials must be submitted online or mailed to the Graduate Admissions office at Office of Graduate and Professional Admissions (New Brunswick), Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 56 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8530.
7. Enter payment information for the non-refundable application fee.
8. Submit your application and authorize payment for the non-refundable application fee.
## V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16:507:510</td>
<td>Higher Education Structures and Governance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:507:515</td>
<td>Diversity and Multiculturalism in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:507:520</td>
<td>Higher Education Law</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:507:530</td>
<td>Higher Education Leadership: Theory, Research, and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:507:535</td>
<td>History of Higher Education in the U.S.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Core Courses</strong> (18 credits required)</td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Additional Graduate Course Work (15 credits) | Additional 15 credits of graduate course work from any participating school selected in consultation with faculty advisor. | 15 |

| Research Core (15 credits) | 15 credits minimum selected in consultation with faculty advisor. | 15 |

| Independent Dissertation Research (24 credits) | 16:507:701  Research in Higher Education | 24 |
|                                               | 16:507:702                                        |     |

**Total Credits 72**

## VI. QUALIFYING EXAM:
The qualifying examination assesses students’ knowledge of the field of higher education including capacity to conduct original research in a specific area of inquiry. Each qualifying examination requires a faculty committee of three members, who provide feedback and indicate an overall level of achievement (exceptional, high pass, pass, unsatisfactory) both in writing and at an evaluation meeting with the student.

## VII. DISSERTATION:
Each candidate for the doctorate pursues, under faculty direction, an original investigation of a problem or problems in a field of concentration and presents the results of the investigation in a dissertation. This doctoral work is completed in a minimum of 24 credits of research course work. Before embarking on this original investigation, students must have their dissertation committee approve a proposal that describes research questions and the methods used to address those questions.