

Higher Education PhD Program

GRE Waiver Allowance

The Higher Education PhD program in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies program received a waiver of the GRE as an admission criterion for outstanding applicants to the PhD program. The waiver is targeted to those highly qualified students who demonstrate outstanding prior academic performance in their past academic programs and/or have a significant research experience in a related field.

Criteria

Applicants meeting one of the following criteria related to academic preparation, research experience, or administrative experience will have the option to request a waiver of the FSU requirement to provide GRE scores:

Academic Preparation

- Upper-division undergraduate GPA of 3.2 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or an international institution, OR
- A completed master's degree with a 3.75 (on a 4.0 scale) or higher from a regionally U.S. institution or an international institution.

Research Experience

- Research-based thesis in a relevant field completed during a previous undergraduate or graduate program, OR
- At least one year of relevant research experience, including paid and unpaid work, with significant engagement with, commitment to, and understanding of the social science research process, OR
- Authorship or co-authorship on an article published in a peer-reviewed journal.

Administrative Experience

- Five or more years of professional experience within higher education or a related field

Applicants must provide evidence to satisfy the criteria being applied. In particular, applicants applying for the GRE waiver based on relevant research experience must present supportive evidence to demonstrate their research experience (e.g., authorship on a peer-reviewed scholarship publication, recipient of a competitively-awarded research grant or fellowship, statement from a former advisor or mentor, etc.). Note: Applicants with a competitive GRE score will still be able to apply to the program and will not be held to these additional criteria.

For waiver consideration, please be sure to indicate the criterion/criteria that fit(s) your case, along with providing supporting documentation. You will be able to access the GRE Waiver Request Form in the admissions application.

If you do not submit the GRE waiver request and accompanying evidence, you must submit scores from the GRE. All decisions on the applicability of the waiver are at faculty discretion and decided at the admissions review stage.