

The Master's Degree in College Student Personnel Administration (CSPA) concentration trains candidates to succeed in entry- to mid-level student affairs positions in two-year and four-year public and private colleges and universities. Graduates will be qualified to serve as administrators, advisors, and programmers in areas as diverse as residential life, student activities, admissions, advising, service and leadership, orientation, multicultural programs, student conduct, fraternity and sorority life, and assessment. Coursework includes classes in student development theory, history as it relates to college students, and counseling college students.

THEORY TO PRACTICE

The program takes pride in providing engaging coursework that students are able to apply in their assistantships and professional lives.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES

The program offers two practicum experiences and two assistantship opportunities.

RELATIONSHIPS

Students have a number of different opportunities to build relationships beyond the classroom with our 25-person cohort.

SOCIAL JUSTICE FOCUS

Students are prepared with knowledge and skills to advocate for justice and equity within higher education and student affairs.

Admissions

- Deadline to apply for Fall semester is the first Friday in January of each year
- a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- a current resume
- a personal statement
- two letters of reference

Please check our CSPA website for the full admissions process:

https://education.illinoisstate.edu/ms_cspa/



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY



College Student Personnel Administration Program

Master's Degree in Student
Affairs

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Graduate Assistantships

Full-time students in the CSPA program hold graduate assistantship (GA) positions.

You have the option to switch your assistantships after your first year to gain experience in another office, or you may stay two years in the same assistantship.

All GA positions come with a tuition waiver and a monthly stipend, ranging from \$900 to \$1,000 per month for the fall and spring semesters.

GA positions are available on the ISU campus and at other local colleges.

Possible GA Options

- Academic Advising
- Admissions
- Career Center
- Civic Engagement
- Fraternity & Sorority Life
- International Student Services
- Multicultural Services
- Orientation & Transition Services
- Residence Life/Housing
- Student Activities
- Student Conduct
- TRiO Programs
- Union Management



Curriculum

There are three ways students can earn the CSPA Master of Science degree:

- 42 credit hours of course work with a capstone seminar (program that most full-time students take)
- 36 credit hours of course work plus a comprehensive examination (designed for part-time students)
- 36 credit hours of course work plus a thesis

Some Course Samples:

- EAF 462: Organization & Administration Student Affairs Functions in Higher Education
- EAF 463: College Students and Their Cultures
- EAF 473: Organization and Administration of Community Colleges
- EAF 469: Comparative (International) Higher Education

Student Affairs Graduate Association (SAGA)

SAGA is a Registered Student Organization (RSO) for all students enrolled in the CSPA program at Illinois State University. The organization provides its members with professional development and social opportunities, helps foster a sense of community among its members, and assists in their preparation for working in the field of student affairs.



"I am passionate about helping students succeed academically, personally, and professionally. I strive to assist my students in achieving their goals throughout their college careers."

"Born and raised in China, it was not an easy transition when I first came to attend undergraduate school in the U.S.. I am passionate about bridging culture gaps, to help pair international students with American higher education institutions."



"I want to help students achieve whatever they aim for. I am also eager to help students from all backgrounds with different needs."

"I want to be the role model, representing my own identity for other people in the student affairs profession. I want to support students to complete their own goals. "

