

PhD in Education with a Focus on Educational Sustainability (July intake)

2027 Supplemental Application

The PhD in Education program will prepare students from a variety of fields including, but not limited to, education, health, social work, social justice, and administrative leadership for sustainable educational practices in the 21st century. Through a variety of courses, a comprehensive exam and a research dissertation, the PhD program in Education will allow you to assume an investigative stance in regard to teaching and learning. PhD experiential learning will enable you to develop a scholarship of teaching and learning through opportunities to conduct seminars and engage in research related to instructional practices in multiple fields.

This program starts in July of the intake year. PhD students must participate in two summer residency programs at our North Bay campus (in-person only) over two years (4 weeks each July). Outside of the summer residency, all other courses are offered online only. For international applicants only, please note that this program does not meet the requirements for a Study Permit. Make sure you check on the immigration requirements to attend the North Bay campus for the mandatory summer residency program.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding the PhD in Education program, please visit www.nipissingu.ca/phd.

Program related questions can be directed to the Chair, Graduate Studies in Education at graded@nipissingu.ca.

APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENT DEADLINES

APPLICATION AND APPLICATION FEE:	January 15, 2027* - for scholarship consideration.
SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:	January 22, 2027, at 4:30 p.m. EST

Applications received after the application deadline date will not be considered for scholarships/funding. For questions pertaining to scholarship/funding opportunities criteria, please contact sgs@nipissingu.ca.

Applications will continue to be accepted after January 15, 2027, and documentation after January 22, 2027. Late applications will be considered if room remains in the program; funding consideration is not available for late applications and late documentation. Please note that this program tends to fill up quickly, therefore it is strongly recommended you submit the application and documentation by the deadline dates listed above. Contact admissions@nipissingu.ca or at 705-474-3450 ext. 4600 to verify if late applications are still being accepted.*

***Late applications, application fees and late documentation must be submitted no later than April 30, 2027. Please note that applications can close at any time once program is full and a waitlist has been established.*

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must hold a Master's degree or equivalent, as recognized by Nipissing University, in an appropriate discipline, with a minimum A- standing. Preference will be given to applicants whose master's degree includes an independent research component such as a thesis or major research paper.

Visit the PhD in Education program page at www.nipissingu.ca/phd for further information on admission requirements.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Please submit transcripts, letters of reference and other supporting documentation after you have submitted your online application. Nipissing University cannot verify receipt of transcripts and supporting documents if we have not received your application. Applications take approximately 3 business days to arrive at Nipissing after payment is received. Electronic submission of supplemental documents is preferred. If submitting physical copies, you may paperclip your documents. No staples or folders please. Do not bind documents in any other manner.

ONLINE APPLICATION AND FEE

Online application can be accessed from our website at <https://www.ouac.on.ca/apply/nipissingu/grad/>. The base application fee will be paid online through the application. Additional transcript fees may apply.

TRANSCRIPTS

Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all institutions attended, including those attended on a Letter of Permission or exchange program. High School or College (diploma/certificate programs) transcripts are not required. A copy of the transcript from an exchange program can be sent directly by your host institution to Nipissing University if they are willing to do so, otherwise an official transcript must be sent directly from the university where the exchange program was held. See the Document Submission section below for acceptable methods to submit official transcripts.

Current and Former Nipissing Students

- Current and former Nipissing students and/or graduates do not need to order or send Nipissing transcripts as we have them on file. However, if you attended Nipissing prior to 1992, you are considered a Laurentian University student and must request your transcript through Laurentian University.

Applicants with Canadian Credentials

- **Ontario:** The fastest and most effective way to send your official transcripts is by ordering them through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) when you apply. Otherwise, you will need to contact the institution(s) directly to request your transcript(s) and have them sent to Nipissing University by one of the methods listed in the Document Submission section below.
- **All Other Provinces:** You will need to contact the institution(s) directly to request your transcript(s) and have them sent directly to Nipissing University by one of the methods listed in the Document Submission section below.

Applicants with International Credentials

- If you have completed post-secondary courses at the undergraduate or graduate level outside of Canada or the U.S. (except from Exchange studies), you **MUST** have all your foreign transcripts evaluated by World Education Service (WES): www.wes.org/ca. A WES Credential Evaluation Report, including a Course-By-Course Evaluation Report (ICAP), must be sent directly to Nipissing University by the supplemental documentation deadline. This requirement cannot be waived. No exceptions.

CONFIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Two (2) confidential academic recommendations from professors **OR** other appropriate professionals who can speak to the candidate's level of preparation and readiness for graduate studies. The referee must be qualified to address the academic ability and competence of the applicant to undertake graduate studies. References cannot be completed by anyone who is personally related to you as the applicant. **Recommendations must be confidential; therefore, they must be mailed in sealed envelopes with the referee's signature over the seal or emailed by the referee using their professional email address and sent directly to admissions@nipissingu.ca.**

The Confidential Recommendation forms are included at the end of this package. **Please indicate to your referee that a comprehensive letter of reference specific to this application (on business letterhead) must be included with the confidential recommendation form and will be used for admission purposes to determine your eligibility for the program.**

PROOF OF COMPLETION OF A THESIS OF MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER AT THE MASTER'S LEVEL

Please do not submit your actual thesis or MRP. Submitting a copy of the thesis or MRP signature page only or ensuring your thesis is referenced on your transcript is sufficient. If a thesis or major research paper was not completed for your Master's degree, a sample of evidence of scholarly writing (written in English, not translated) must be submitted. The sample should demonstrate your advanced research, scholarly writing, critical thinking, and analytical skills. Select a sample that best represents your academic and research capabilities and demonstrates your readiness for doctoral-level study.

RESUME

A **comprehensive** résumé detailing your educational and professional experience. Please include scholarships and awards, significant academic accomplishments, internships, research projects, involvement in student organizations, volunteer work, language skills, and publications and presentations.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

A typed Statement of Intent of between 1000 and 1500 words must be included. Statements should provide the following information:

- The value of undertaking a doctoral degree at this time and specifically at Nipissing University;
- The way in which your work might relate to educational sustainability;
- A description of your study and/or research interests (you might choose to identify four or five key words or phrases that relate to your proposed study);
- An explanation of how/why you became interested in this field of study;
- Awareness of peer reviewed research (minimum of 2-3 articles) in your intended field of study;
- Reasons for seeking admission into this particular program within the Schulich School of Education at Nipissing University; and
- The names of two or three faculty members with whom you would be interested in working with. Visit the Finding a Graduate Supervisor website at www.nipissingu.ca/school-graduate-studies/finding-graduate-supervisor to learn more about exploring research opportunities, identifying potential supervisors, and beginning the conversation about your graduate studies journey.

FACULTY ADVISORS AND RESEARCH SUPERVISORS

Before finding a Research Supervisor, PhD in Education students are first assigned a Faculty Advisor to assist and advise students on program requirements in the early stages of the degree. Once enrolled in the program, your Faculty Advisor may assist you in finding a suitable Research Supervisor.

Prior to submitting your application, you should review the information found on our Finding a Graduate Supervisor website at www.nipissingu.ca/school-graduate-studies/finding-graduate-supervisor. It is strongly encouraged that you contact your top choices for advisors(s) in advance of submitting your application to inquire whether they are accepting new graduate students for the next academic year and to discuss your specific research interests. Connecting with a potential supervisor is also a great way to learn more about a program, explore research opportunities, and determine whether your interests align. Identifying an advisor in advance assists with acquiring potential funding for your degree and gathering related research experience prior to entry into the program. It also provides you with a stronger chance of being considered for admission.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Applicants to programs offered by the School of Graduate Studies at Nipissing University whose first language is not English will be required to achieve the required proficiency level on one of the following tests of English language proficiency for admission consideration. Visit www.nipissingu.ca/englishproficiency for further information.

SCHOLARSHIP AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Nipissing University offers internal scholarship funding for which **full-time** applicants are automatically considered, as well as external scholarship opportunities for which students must apply. Below is a summary of the most common scholarships. Visit future.nipissingu.ca/programs/education-phd/#funding or contact sgs@nipissingu.ca for more scholarship opportunities and information on how to apply.

Scholarship	Value	Deadline	Application Required?
Canada Graduate Research Scholarship - Doctoral	\$40,000 per year for up to 3 years	Consult website	Yes
Ontario Graduate Scholarship and Queen Elizabeth II - Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology	\$15,000	January 15 th	Yes
Schulich Scholarship * <i>*when entering years 3 or 4 of the program</i>	\$7,500	January 15 th	Yes
PhD Entrance Scholarship	\$5,000 for years 1 and 2	Automatically considered if admission application is received by January 15 th	No
Nipissing University Alumni Entrance Scholarship	\$2,000	Automatically awarded to graduates of a Nipissing degree program	No

DOCUMENT SUBMISSION

Transcripts and supporting documentation can be submitted in the following ways:

- **Email:** admissions@nipissingu.ca - All documentation can be sent to this email address. As for official transcripts, emailed transcripts will only be accepted when we can verify that they come directly from the issuing institution. Recommendations must be sent directly by the referees from their email account and not by the applicant.
- **Third-Party Companies (e.g., MyCreds, Parchment):** Please contact your institution directly for assistance with these platforms. Send to admissions@nipissingu.ca.
- **OUAC:** Official transcripts from Ontario universities and colleges should be ordered through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) as part of the application process. You must contact your institution directly for all transcripts from outside Ontario.
- **In person:** Registrar's Office (F209)
- **Mail:** Nipissing University
Office of the Registrar - Admissions
100 College Drive, Box 5002

CHECKLIST

Use the checklist below to ensure that you have completed all the necessary steps for the application process. The checklist does not need to be submitted with your application.

Application Step	Completed
Online application completed and application fee submitted	☐
All undergraduate, graduate, exchange studies, and Letter of Permission transcripts ordered/submitted	☐
WES evaluation submitted (if required)	☐
Confidential references (2) contacted, provided proper forms/instructions, and informed of deadlines	☐
Proof of completion of a thesis of major research paper at the master's level submitted (if required)	☐
Or Sample of Written Work if did not complete Thesis or MRP (if required)	☐
Comprehensive résumé submitted	☐
Statement of Interest submitted	☐
Official English Language Proficiency test scores submitted (if required)	☐
Scholarship applications (e.g., CGRS-M, OGS, etc.) submitted (via appropriate portals/emails)	☐

Applicant: Please complete this section before presenting to referee

Name of Applicant:

Surname	First	Middle	Student # or OUAC Ref. #
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Referee: We would appreciate your appraisal of the above applicant for a PhD degree in the field of Education. The information in the report will be considered confidential.

- How long have you known the applicant? (MM/YY) From: _____ to _____
- In what capacity? _____
- Indicate with an 'X' your evaluation of this applicant with respect to their ability to complete a PhD program in the field of Education:

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	No Basis for Comment
Intellectual Capacity	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Scholarly Potential	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Originality	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Critical Judgment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Oral Expression	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Written Expression	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Initiative	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Work Habits	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Perseverance	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

- In comparison with other students at the applicant's level, indicate where you would place this applicant.
 Among the top ☐ 5% ☐ 10% ☐ 25% ☐ 50% ☐ lower than 50%

5. Please attach a current comprehensive letter of reference on letterhead specific to this application which speaks to the candidate's strengths, or any concerns you may have with their ability to succeed at the Doctoral level. This letter will be used for admission purposes to determine your eligibility for the program, and scholarship consideration.

To the Referee:

This Recommendation is confidential. Please enclose this form and supporting letter in a sealed envelope and write your signature over the seal. You can either return the envelope to the applicant to submit with their application, or email the documents directly to the Admissions Office, sent from your professional email account to admissions@nipissingu.ca.

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Faculty: _____

Address: _____

Position: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Applicant: Please complete this section before presenting to referee

Name of Applicant:

Surname	First	Middle	Student # or OUAC Ref. #
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Referee: We would appreciate your appraisal of the above applicant for a PhD degree in the field of Education. The information in the report will be considered confidential.

- Professional Relationship to applicant _____
- Period of relationship upon which assessment is based _____
 From: _____ to _____
- Indicate with an 'X' your evaluation of this applicant in comparison with others performing similar duties.

		Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	No Basis for Comment
Professional Knowledge and Ability		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Leadership Qualities		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Teaching Ability		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Professional Relationships with...	Colleagues	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Students	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
	Public	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Oral Expression		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Written Expression		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reliability of Performance		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Familiarity with Current Theory & Practice		☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

- In comparison with others performing similar professional duties, how would you rank this applicant.
 Among the top ☐ 5% ☐ 10% ☐ 25% ☐ 50% ☐ lower than 50%

5. Please attach a current comprehensive letter of reference on letterhead specific to this application which speaks to the candidate's strengths, or any concerns you may have with their ability to succeed at the Doctoral level. This letter will be used for admission purposes to determine your eligibility for the program, and scholarship consideration.

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This Recommendation is confidential. Please enclose this form and supporting letter in a sealed envelope and write your signature over the seal. You can either return the envelope to the applicant to submit with their application, or email the documents directly to the Admissions Office, sent from your professional email account to admissions@nipissingu.ca.

Name: _____	Company/School/ Organization: _____
Position: _____	Address: _____
Signature: _____	Date: _____
Telephone Number: _____	Email address: _____

Protection of Privacy

Information requested from students and applicants is collected under the authority of the Nipissing University Act, 1992. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act you are hereby notified that: "By applying for admission to Nipissing University and by registering in programs or courses at the University, you are accepting the University's right to collect pertinent personal information. The information is needed to assess qualifications for entry, establish a record of performance in programs and courses, provide the basis for awards and government funding, and to assist the University in the academic and financial administration of its affairs". Additionally, personal information may be used by University staff in many offices on a "need to know" basis to identify and contact students who require their services.