

# Developmental Science

---

## Department Information

- **Department Head:**  
Joel Hektner, Ph.D.
- **Graduate Coordinator:**  
Heather Fuller, Ph.D.
- **Email:**  
heather.fuller@ndsu.edu
- **Department Location:**  
Evelyn Morrow Lebedeff Hall
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-8268
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate\\_studies/ds/](http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate_studies/ds/) ([http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate\\_studies/ds/](http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate_studies/ds/))
- **Application Deadline:**  
February 1
- **Credential Offered:**  
Ph.D.
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
TOEFL iBT 100 (subscores of at least 24 for speaking and 21 for writing); IELTS 7; Duolingo 125
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Statement of purpose should be 500 words or less and address the following:
  - The experiences you have had (e.g. informal, academic, employment, volunteer) that you see as related to this graduate program or your professional goals
  - What your research interests are and how they might fit with the current research emphases in the department. If you have questions about this, the HDFS faculty research interests are described on the HDFS website (<http://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/>) ([https://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate\\_studies/ds/developmental\\_science\\_program\\_faculty/](https://www.ndsu.edu/hdfs/graduate_studies/ds/developmental_science_program_faculty/)).
  - What your professional goals are and how this graduate program will help you accomplish your professional goals
- Curriculum vitae or resume
- Thesis or writing sample
- Three letters of recommendation from people who know your academic work well
- Submission of GRE Scores is optional. Lack of scores will not affect admissions decision.
- For non-native English speakers, TOEFL iBT score of 100 (subscores of 24 for speaking and 21 for writing) or IELTS score of 7 or Duolingo score of 125

For those entering with a Master's degree:

- Master's degree from accredited educational institution in child development, developmental psychology, human development, developmental science, or related area
- At least one course in statistics and one course in research methods, with a grade of B or higher
- Completion of an empirical Master's thesis

For those entering with a Bachelor's degree:

- Bachelor's degree from accredited educational institution in child development, developmental psychology, human development, developmental science, or related area

## Financial Assistance

All admitted students are offered graduate assistantships. In addition to the stipend, graduate assistants receive a graduate tuition waiver. Tuition waivers cover base tuition for NDSU graduate credits only. Students are responsible for differential tuition, student fees, and tuition for non-graduate level credits taken or Cooperative Education credits.