

## College of Education & Behavioral Sciences



### Mission Statement

The mission of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences (CEBS) is to empower individuals to lead and serve through academic and inquiry-based experiences representative of the educational, behavioral, and leadership needs of our diverse and global society. We intend for graduates of our programs to be highly sought-after community leaders in education and behavioral science professions.

### Organizational and Program Information

Since its inception as the Western Kentucky State Normal School and Teachers College in 1922, the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences has prepared highly qualified educators and other professionals to serve the community, the region, the commonwealth, and beyond. CEBS is nationally recognized for its clinical preparation programs in education and behavioral sciences. We prepare professionals in Educator Preparation, Psychology, Counseling and Student Affairs, Educational Administration, Organizational Leadership, and Military Science and Leadership. We engage students in a variety of applied learning opportunities including experiences in classrooms, research laboratories, clinics, our local community, and across the globe. We maintain multiple institutional-level as well as specialized program accreditations including the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP), and the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Our faculty are highly productive scholars, maintaining active grant-based inquiry agendas supported by local, state, and federal grant agencies and foundations. Applied research is an important part of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. Students and faculty work together to conduct research on a wide variety of topics in laboratories, classrooms, and community settings.

The College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at WKU offers the lifespan of degrees ranging from associate's to doctoral credentials. Degree tracks and practice licensures are focused in Counseling

and Student Affairs, Educational Leadership, Organizational Leadership, Military Science, Psychology, Workforce Administration, and Educator Preparation.

CEBS also supports the WKU Office of Professional Educator Services, Military Student Support Services, WKU ROTC and National Guard units, Talley Family Counseling Center, WKU Literacy Clinic, WKU Center for Gifted Studies, and the WKU Psychology Clinic.

### *Goals and Anticipated Program Activities*

CEBS is committed to advancing institutional strategic goals and objectives as outlined in WKU's Strategic Plan, Climbing to Greater Heights, as well as other initiatives and strategic priorities consistent with that plan:

- Recruit, retain, and graduate students dedicated to teaching, leading, and serving.
- Enhance the faculty and staff experience through the incorporation of current technologies: replacing outdated and paper-based work processes.
- Expand applied learning opportunities for students focusing on social engagement, social justice, and considerations expected of a diverse community.
- Broaden and strengthen faculty and community engagement in program-specific continuous program improvement practices and alumni needs.

Consistent with the Division of Academic Affairs, CEBS includes advancing academic quality, building student success, promoting research, and supporting the work of faculty and staff as the cornerstones of its strategic agenda. In addition, the College is responsive to other institutional imperatives, such as EPSB mandates and directives, which are reflective of the College's purpose in preparing next generation educators. The following list summarizes the Colleges priorities relative to institutional and divisional strategic priorities:

- Grow undergraduate enrollment.
- Develop a national model of enrollment in educator preparation.
- Increase student retention.
- Grow graduate enrollment.
- Increase enrollment of individuals from diverse backgrounds in undergraduate and graduate programs.
- Transform graduate educator preparation consistent with the needs of partnering K-12 school districts.
- Extend and expand applied student learning opportunities in partnership with community constituents.