

Educational Leadership

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The Department of Educational Leadership offers the following degrees.

- Master of Arts in Teaching in Community College Education
- Master of Science in Workforce Education Leadership
- Doctor of Philosophy in Community College Leadership
- Master of Science in Educational Leadership with concentrations in (1) School Administration and (2) Student Affairs & Higher Education
- Educational Specialist in Education with a concentration in School Administration
- Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership with concentrations in (1) P-12 School Leadership and (2) Higher Education Leadership

A student applying for admission to a degree program in the Department of Educational Leadership must submit a complete admission packet to the Graduate School and adhere to the following deadlines.

M.A.T. in Community College Education: For Spring, Summer, and Fall admission, follow the Graduate School deadlines

M.S. in Workforce Education Leadership: For Spring, Summer, and Fall admission, follow the Graduate School deadlines

Ph.D. in Community College Leadership: For Spring--October 1; for Summer--March 1; for Fall--March 1

M.S. in Educational Leadership - School Administration concentration: Spring--N/A; Summer--May 1; Fall--N/A

M.S. in Educational Leadership - Student Affairs and Higher Education concentration: Spring--N/A; Summer--N/A; Fall--March 1

Ed.S. in Education - School Administration Concentration: Spring--N/A; Summer--March 1; Fall--N/A

Ph.D. in Educational Leadership - P-12 School Leadership Concentration: Spring--October 1; Summer--March 1; Fall--March 1

Ph.D. in Educational Leadership - Higher Education Leadership Concentration: Spring--N/A; Summer--N/A; Fall--March 1

A complete admission packet includes the following.

- Application to the graduate degree program
- Statement of purpose
- Three letters of recommendation
- GRE scores that are five years old or less (not required for the MAT in Community College Education and the MS in Workforce Education Leadership programs)
- Official transcripts from each college or university attended

In order for applications to be evaluated for admission, the department may require additional information for each program area.

General Admission Requirements

Degree Programs in Community College

Minimum Grade Point Average

Master's degrees – 2.75 on last half of bachelor's degree

Doctoral degree – 3.40 on previous graduate degree(s)

Additional admission requirements

Doctoral degree – at least three years of work experience in a community college, on-campus interview and writing sample, curriculum vitae

Master of Arts in Teaching in Community College Education – Indication of teaching specialty (e.g., history) in purpose statement

Degree Programs in Educational Leadership

Minimum Grade Point Average

Master's degree – 2.75 on last half of bachelor's degree for School Administration concentration; 3.00 for Student Affairs and Higher Education concentration

Educational Specialist degree – 3.20 on Master's degree

Doctoral degree – 3.40 on previous graduate degree(s)

Additional admission requirements

Master's (School Administration concentration) and Educational Specialist degrees – copy of valid teacher's license, evidence of a minimum of three years teaching experience, résumé, and interview (one letter of recommendation must be from current school administrator)

Master's (Student Affairs and Higher Education concentration) - current résumé and interview

Doctoral degree – résumé and interview;

P-12 School Leadership concentration applicants must have evidence of current and continuing school administration work experience.

Higher Education Leadership applicants must have at least three years of higher education work experience.

Community College Programs

Master of Arts in Teaching in Community College Education (M.A.T.)

The Master of Arts in Teaching in Community College Education is an interdisciplinary degree program designed to prepare professionals for teaching in a community college setting. The degree prepares educators for service in rural community colleges and requires a minimum of 18 hours in the student's teaching field (e.g., history, math, English). The professional education sequence consists of 12 hours. The education courses introduce students to the philosophy and culture of the community college and prepare them to teach non-traditional and first-generation students. Sensitivity to diversity and adult learning theory is also included in the curriculum. The program is offered through the Center for Distance Education but is not completely online since most courses in the teaching field are only offered on campus.

Admission Criteria

To be eligible for admission to the program, the applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, meet the basic requirements specified for graduate students at Mississippi State University, demonstrate interest in the mission of community colleges, and demonstrate academic proficiency based on the application materials.

Master of Science in Workforce Education Leadership

The Master of Science in Workforce Education Leadership is a distance learning program designed to prepare professionals for employment in workforce education in post-secondary educational institutions and social services entities, advancing the knowledge base of workforce preparation, workforce development education, and professional development. The program is offered through the Center for Distance Education and is completely online.

Admission Criteria

To be eligible for admission to the program, the applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, meet the basic requirements specified for graduate students at Mississippi State University, demonstrate interest in the mission of community college and/or workforce issues, and demonstrate academic proficiency based on the application materials.

Doctor of Philosophy in Community College Leadership

The Ph.D. degree program in Community College Leadership is designed to prepare professionals for leadership positions in community colleges. The degree program is designed to prepare the next generation of community college leaders. The program consists of core courses of study in leading and managing in the community college, interdisciplinary courses in a rural context, and courses in research and statistics. The program is offered through the Center for Distance Education but is not completely online.

Admission Criteria

To be eligible for admission to the program, the applicant must hold a master's degree from an accredited institution, meet the basic requirements specified for graduate students at Mississippi State University, demonstrate interest in the mission of community colleges, have at least three years of work experience in a community college, and demonstrate academic proficiency based on the application materials.

Educational Leadership Programs

Master of Science in Educational Leadership with a concentration in School Administration

Program candidates in the School Administration concentration learn to analyze data, evaluate instruction, improve student achievement, make strategic decisions, creatively solve problems, involve families in their children's education, empower others, supervise staff, promote change, establish positive school culture, understand budgets, and manage resources. The program is nationally accredited by the Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC) and approved for administrative licensure by the Mississippi Department of Education. Graduates are prepared for a wide range of professional positions in education, including principal, assistant principal, coordinator, and director.

Master of Science in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Student Affairs & Higher Education

Program candidates in the Student Affairs & Higher Education concentrations are prepared for careers in higher education management, administration, and leadership with a particular emphasis on the college student experience and services related to supporting college student success.

Admission Criteria

To be eligible for admission to the program, the applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, meet the basic requirements specified for graduate students at Mississippi State University, and demonstrate academic proficiency based on the following indicators.

1. Grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 on a 4.00 scale on the last half of the bachelor's degree for School Administration; 3.00 for Student Affairs & Higher Education
2. GRE score results
3. Letter of endorsement from current school administrator and two other letters of reference for School Administration OR three letters of recommendation for Student Affairs & Higher Education
4. Statement of purpose
5. Copy of valid teacher's license (School Administration only)
6. Evidence of three years of teaching experience (School Administration only)
7. Current résumé
8. Interview

Educational Specialist in Education with a School Administration Concentration

The Educational Specialist degree with a major in Education and concentration in School Administration requires a minimum of 30 hours of coursework above the Master's degree including EPY 6214 and EDL 7000 and a comprehensive examination for individuals. The program is designed for individuals who hold a Master's degree in School Administration and administrator license. Graduates are prepared for professional positions in education including school district level positions.

If the student does not hold administrator licensure, the program of study for the Educational Specialist degree with a major in Education and concentration in School Administration requires a minimum of 40 credit hours of coursework above the Master's degree including EPY 6214 and EDL 7000. The program is designed to provide administrative licensure by the Mississippi Department of Education. Graduates are prepared for a wide range of professional positions in education, including principal, assistant principal, coordinator, and director.

Admission Criteria

To be eligible for admission to the program, the applicant must hold a master's degree from an accredited institution, meet the basic requirements specified for graduate students at Mississippi State University, demonstrate interest in the mission of P-12 schools, and demonstrate academic proficiency based on the following indicators.

1. Grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 on a 4.00 scale on the last half of the bachelor's degree
2. GRE score results
3. Letter of endorsement from current school administrator and two other letters of reference
4. Statement of purpose
5. Copy of valid teacher's license
6. Evidence of three years of teaching experience
7. Current résumé
8. Interview.

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership with a concentration in P-12 School Administration

The program for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Educational Leadership with a concentration in P-12 School Administration is designed for experienced professional administrators interested in leading and managing P-12 schools, school districts, educational associations, foundations, and state departments of education. It is designed to prepare educators in P-12 school leadership and higher education leadership. The program includes a combination of required focused courses, foundational courses, research courses, and other organized learning experiences for leading and managing schools, school districts, higher education institutions, educational associations, foundations, state educational agencies, and other P-12 or higher education environments.

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Higher Education Leadership

The program for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Higher Education Leadership is designed for experienced professionals in higher education environments interested in leading and managing various aspects of colleges and universities, state higher education agencies, foundations, and related associations.

Admission Criteria

To be eligible for admission to the program, the applicant must hold a master's degree from an accredited institution, meet the basic requirements specified for graduate students at Mississippi State University, and demonstrate academic proficiency based on the following indicators.

1. Grade point average (GPA) of 3.40 on a 4.00 scale on previous graduate degree(s)
2. GRE score results
3. Letter of endorsement from superintendent and two other letters of reference for P-12 School Leadership OR three letters of recommendation for Higher Education Leadership
4. Statement of purpose
5. Evidence of current and continuing school administration experience for P-12 Leadership OR evidence of three years higher education work experience for Higher Education Leadership
6. Résumé
7. Interview

Master of Arts in Teaching in Community College Education

Core Courses

CCL 8113	Community College History/Philosophy	3
CCL 8313	Community College Instructional Assessment	3
CCL 8173	Community College Teaching and Learning	3
EDF 8363	Function and Methods of Research in Education	3

Teaching Specialty/Content Area

Select 18 hours of courses with the same prefix. 18

Total Hours 30

Master of Science in Workforce Education Leadership

Core Courses

CCL 8113	Community College History/Philosophy	3
CCL 8343	Community Development and Resources	3
CCL 8133	Leadership Theory and Practice in the Community College	3
CCL 8153	Human Resources Administration	3
CCL 8143	Program Planning and Development	3
EDF 8363	Function and Methods of Research in Education	3
CCL 8173	Community College Teaching and Learning	3
CCL 8193	Issues in Community College and Workforce Leadership	3

Any two TKT courses at the 6000 level or above. 6

Total Hours 30

Doctor of Philosophy in Community College Leadership

Core Courses		21
Select one of the following:		
CCL 8113 or CCL 8373	Community College History/Philosophy Community College Curriculum Improvement	
CCL 8123	Community College Finance	
CCL 8233	Community College Legal Issues	
CCL 8333	Community College Administration	
CCL 8283	Leadership in Community College Administration	
CCL 8353	Applications of Organizational Theory and Behavior in Community College Leadership	
CCL 8153	Human Resources Administration	3
Interdisciplinary Courses		6
HED 8673	Planning and Institutional Research in Higher Education	3
CCL 8343	Community Development and Resources	3
Research Courses		14
EPY 6214	Educational and Psychological Statistics	
EPY 8214	Advanced Educational and Psychological Statistics	
EDF 9373	Educational Research Design	
EDF 9453	Introduction to Qualitative Research in Education	
Dissertation		20
EDA 9000	Dissertation Research /Dissertation in Educational Leadership (hours and credits to be arranged; minimum of 20 hours required)	
Additional Requirements		
CCL 8213	Internship in Community College Leadership ¹	3
Total Hours		61-64

¹ Required of students lacking community college work experience.

Master of Science in Educational Leadership with a concentration in School Administration

Required Courses		
EDL 8413	School Legal and Ethical Perspectives	3
EDL 8423	School Leadership	3
EDL 8433	Using Data for School Improvement	3
EDF 8443	Evaluation of School Programs	3
EDL 8523	Educating Diverse Learners	3
EDL 8623	Leading Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment	3
EDL 8633	Human Resources Leadership for Schools	3
EDL 8713	School Business and Facilities	3
EDL 8723	Leadership for Positive School Culture	3
EDL 8513	School Leadership Internship I	3
EDL 8613	School Leadership Internship II	3
A culminating assessment is also held during the second summer term		
Total Hours		33

Master of Science in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Student Affairs & Higher Education

Prerequisites and Core Courses		
COE 8023	Counseling Theory	3
COE 8013	Counseling Skills Development	3
HED 8573	Applied Assessment in Student Affairs & Higher Education	3

Concentration Requirements

HED 8553	Student Affairs in Higher Education	3
HED 8523	Student Development Theory	3
HED 8543	Legal Issues in Student Affairs	3
HED 8563	Assessment Strategy in Student Affairs & Higher Education	3
HED 8113	Administrative Leadership in Student Affairs & Higher Education	3
HED 8623	Diversity, Globalization and the College Student	3
HED 8583	Administrative Competency in Stu Affairs & Higher Ed: Budgets & Supervision	3
HED 8593	Administrative Competency in Stu Affairs & Higher Ed: Technology, Communication, & Crisis	3
Approved Electives		3
Fieldwork Experience		
HED 8010	Practicum	6
Total Hours		42

Educational Specialist in Education with a concentration in School Administration Individuals Holding a Master's degree in School Administration and Administrator License

EPY 6214	Educational and Psychological Statistics	4
EDL 7000	Directed Individual Study in Educational Leadership	6
Graduate-level coursework with at least 15 hours at the 8000-level		20
Total Hours		30

A comprehensive examination is required.

Educational Specialist in Education with a concentration in School Administration Individuals without Administrator License

EPY 6214	Educational and Psychological Statistics	4
EDL 7000	Directed Individual Study in Educational Leadership	6
Graduate-level coursework with at least 15 hours at the 8000-level		30
Total Hours		40

A comprehensive examination is required.

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership with a concentration in P-12 School Leadership

Required courses		17
Select a minimum of 5 of the following:		
EPY 6214	Educational and Psychological Statistics	
EPY 8214	Advanced Educational and Psychological Statistics	
EPY 9213	Advanced Analysis in Educational Research	
EPY 9263	Applied Research Seminar	
EDF 9373	Educational Research Design	
EDF 9463	Qualitative Data Collection in Education	
EDF 9473	Qualitative Data Analysis and Presentation in Education	
Dissertation Research		20
EDA 9000	Dissertation Research /Dissertation in Educational Leadership (hours and credits to be arranged; minimum of 20 hours required)	
Major Required Courses		12
EDA 8223	Seminar in Administration	
or HED 8223	Seminar in Administration	
EDA 8283	Educational Leadership	
or HED 8283	Educational Leadership	

EDA 8353 or HED 8353	Applications of Theory to Educational Administration Applications of Theory to Educational Administration	
EDA 8383 or HED 8383	Ethical Decision Making in Educational Administration Ethical Decision Making in Educational Administration	
P-12 School Leadership Courses		12
EDA 8163	Public School Finance	
EDA 8190	Workshop in Educational Administration and Supervision	
EDA 8293	Professional Development of Educational Personnel	
EDA 8273	Educational Administration and Supervision	
Select four of the following:		12
EDA 8210	Internship in Supervision and Administration	
EDF 8323	Comparative Education	
EPY 8223	Psychological Foundations of Education	
EDF 9313	Philosophy of Education	
EDA 8323	Educational Facilities Design	
EDF 8353	Principles of Curriculum Development	
Additional courses		3-6
EDF 8393	History of Education in the United States	
EDF 8383	Issues in Education	
Total Hours		76-79

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership with a concentration in Higher Education Leadership

Concentration Required Courses		17
Select a minimum of 5 of the following:		
EPY 6214	Educational and Psychological Statistics	
EPY 8214	Advanced Educational and Psychological Statistics	
EPY 9213	Advanced Analysis in Educational Research	
EPY 9263	Applied Research Seminar	
EDF 9373	Educational Research Design	
EDF 9463	Qualitative Data Collection in Education	
EDF 9473	Qualitative Data Analysis and Presentation in Education	
Dissertation Research		20
EDA 9000 or HED 9000	Dissertation Research /Dissertation in Educational Leadership Dissertation Research /Dissertation in Higher Education	
Major Required Courses		24
HED 8223 or EDA 8223	Seminar in Administration Seminar in Administration	
HED 8283 or HED 8283	Educational Leadership Educational Leadership	
HED 8353 or EDA 8353	Applications of Theory to Educational Administration Applications of Theory to Educational Administration	
HED 8383 or EDA 8383	Ethical Decision Making in Educational Administration Ethical Decision Making in Educational Administration	
HED 8123	Organization and Governance in Higher Education	
HED 8683	Policy Issues in Higher Education	
HED 8643	Advanced Legal Principles in Higher Education	
HED 8653	Finance and Higher Education	
Select 4 of the following		12
HED 8673	Planning and Institutional Research in Higher Education	
HED 8623	Diversity, Globalization and the College Student	
HED 8133	Curriculum and Instruction in Higher Education	

HED 8633	History of American Higher Education	
HED 8523	Student Development Theory	
CCL 8113	Community College History/Philosophy	
Additional Course(s)		3-6
HED 8613	Academic Scholarship in Higher Education	
<hr/> Total Hours		<hr/> 76-79