

# **INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

## **General Admission Requirements for the Master of Education (M.Ed.) Degree:**

In addition to an earned baccalaureate-level professional Educator Certificate in a teaching field or earned master's-level Professional Educator Certificate in a teaching field or instructional support area, the applicant shall:

- (a) Have a minimum of three (3) years of successful teaching experience.
- (b) Submit an admission portfolio before an interview. The portfolio will contain the following:
  1. Three (3) letters of recommendation to include the applicant's principal or supervisor. Each local superintendent will establish requirements for recommendations from the principal and/or supervisor.
  2. Completed copy (all forms) of the most recent performance appraisal to include the professional development component, if available.
  3. Evidence of ability to improve student achievement. (2 examples).
  4. Evidence of leadership and management potential, including evidence of most recent accomplishments in the area of educational leadership. (2 examples).
  5. Summary of candidate's reasons for pursuing instructional leadership certification.
  6. Summary of what the candidate expects from the preparation program.
- (c) Pass an interview conducted by a program admission committee that includes both P-12 instructional leaders and higher education faculty.
  7. The candidate will also be required to take and pass a writing assessment.

\* An applicant will not be considered for admission until all application requirements are met by the specified deadline.

\* The decision from the Graduate Admissions Committee is communicated in writing to the applicant.

## **General Admission Requirements for the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) Degree:**

1. A Master's Degree in Instructional Leadership from an accredited College or University, **OR** a Master's Degree in any field **AND** Professional Certification in Education Administration from an accredited College or University;
2. Minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale);
3. **Two** official copies of transcripts of all undergraduate/graduate work attempted including junior/community colleges.
4. GRE minimum combined score of 400 on Verbal and 400 on Quantitative **OR** 800 on the Verbal/Quantitative sections.

## **Degree Offerings in the Instructional Leadership Program**

### *Certification Programs*

1. The **Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree** in Instructional Leadership. This degree is designed for individuals who currently hold current teaching certification. With the completion of this degree, candidates are eligible for Class A Certification in Instructional Leadership.
2. The **Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree** in Education with a concentration in Instructional Leadership. This degree is designed for individuals who seek greater preparation for leadership in P – 12 schools and/or those who aspire towards pursuing doctoral level studies in educational administration.

### *Noncertification Programs*

1. The Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in Education with a concentration in Instructional Leadership and option in Higher Education. This program is designed for individuals seeking to enhance their skills in leadership positions in postsecondary institutions. The program is also designed for those individuals who aspire towards pursuing doctoral level studies in educational administration. This degree program does not lead to Class AA certification in Instructional Leadership.

Graduate programs in the area of Instructional Leadership consist of the Class A Endorsement in Instructional Leadership; the Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree with Class A Certification and the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree with Class AA Certification and a non-certification option in Higher Education. The M.Ed. degree program leading to Class A Certification requires 33 – 36 semester hours, including 12 – 15 semester hours of foundation courses, 18 semester hours of instructional support courses, and 3 semester hours of internship. The Ed.S degree program leading to Class AA Certification require 36 – 39 semester hours, including 18 – 21 semester hours in foundation courses, 15 semester hours in instructional support courses, and 3 semester hours of mentoring.

The Instructional Leadership program also offers the Ed.S. degree in Education with a concentration in Instructional Leadership and an option in Higher Education not leading to Class AA certification. The non-certification program at the Ed.S. level is particularly designed for individuals whose primary interests are in teaching at the two-year college level and/or those who aspire towards pursuing doctoral level studies in curriculum & instruction in the teaching field. The Ed.S. program requires 36 – 39 semester hours, including 12 – 15 semester hours of foundation courses, 6 semester hours of thesis research, 12 semester hours of teaching field courses, and 6 semester hours of additional courses.

*All degree programs are offered for the Master's and the Alternative Masters' degree. Some exclusions may apply for the Ed.S. degree. Art Education is not offered as an Alternative Master's degree.*