

Educational Leadership and Administration (MA)

This program is offered by the School of Education. It is available online and at the St. Louis main campus. These campuses are no longer accepting new student applications.

Program Description

The master of arts (MA) in educational leadership and administration prepares candidates to meet the requirements for School Leader K-12 certification as outlined by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Built on collaborative learning sessions in a cohort-based model, candidates learn to lead with an equity framework, seeking to eliminate marginalization based on race, disability, socioeconomic, language, gender and sexual identity, and religion.

The curriculum includes coursework, internships, and a capstone course. The capstone course includes a formal review of the student's portfolio of documented competencies in field experiences as well as other documented established competencies.

The MA in educational leadership and administration is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

Vision

To make value-added contributions to international, national, state, district and school-level policy for purposeful inclusive leadership practices that lead to equitable learning for all.

Mission

To empower educational leaders to improve teaching and learning using practices, policies and systems that create high-quality and equitable learning environments.

Learning Outcomes, Program Goals, and Objectives

Candidates will be prepared to be principals and leaders who:

- Acknowledge the Challenges of Leadership for Educational Equity
- Identify Barriers to Equity
- Build an Equity Action Plan to become a leader in their school and community
- Are relentless about high quality instruction and support in the school and classroom
- Have the courage to partner inside and outside of schools
- Learn to stand up on behalf of each and every student

Program Requirements

The following coursework is required:

- LEAD 5504 School Finance & Facilities (3 hours)
- LEAD 5507 School Law (3 hours)
- LEAD 5508 Educating for Equity and Cultural Competence (3 hours)
- LEAD 5510 Talent Management for Recruitment, Development and Retention of Teachers and Personnel (2 hours)
- EDIN 5190 Leadership and Innovation (3 hours)
- EDTC 5460 Curriculum Design Technology Application (3 hours)
- EDTC 5900 Technology, Ethics and Society (3 hours)
- LEAD 5520 Internship I (2 hours)
- LEAD 5530 Internship II (2 hours)

2025 LEAD 5540 Internship III (2 hours)

- LEAD 5550 Capstone (3 hours)

Total: 30 hours

Certification Requirements

Coursework is based upon the requirements as stated by the National Educational Leadership Preparation Program (NELP) Building Level Standards, the Missouri Leader Standards, and content requirements of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Webster University does not issue school leader certification but provides the coursework leading to certification. Candidates seeking certification in the state of Missouri must contact the Coordinator of Educator Certification upon entering the program to complete a certification evaluation.

Candidates for K-12 school leader in the state of Missouri must:

- Hold a valid Missouri professional initial teaching certificate
- Have a minimum of two years teaching experience
- Successful completion of all coursework with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Pass the appropriate Missouri Content Assessment
- Pass the Missouri Performance Assessment (required for all students, regardless of state)

Note: In Missouri, school counselor certificates, speech-language