

Educational Leadership, M.Ed.

Certification Specialization

Mission Statement

In the School of Education the Educational Leadership Certification program, approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE), is designed for students who wish to prepare for administrative and supervisory positions, such as assistant principal, vice principal or curriculum developer in public and private elementary and secondary schools or other school settings. Upon completion of Level II district-level training, candidates are eligible for principal or district-level leadership positions. The Florida Principal Leadership Standards are used as the framework for the curriculum in the Educational Leadership program. There are four domains from which ten standards are aligned. The standards and competencies undergird the UWF educational leadership program student learning outcomes.

Our mission for Educational Leadership is to provide rigorous and relevant courses with emphasis on the following:

- Modeling ethical leadership practices;
- Fostering collaborative learning environment;
- Integrating data-driven decision making;
- Participating in embedded field-experiences in eight courses; and
- Connecting theory in practice in two clinical courses, Instructional Leadership and the Principalship.

Student Learning Outcomes

All of the Program Learning Outcomes are aligned to the Florida Principal Leadership Standards (FPLS), as are course assignments, key assignments, field experiences, and the ePortfolio each candidate develops throughout the program. We also provide a matrix in each course syllabus demonstrating further alignment of course assignments to the Florida Educational Leadership Exam (FELE) competencies, Professional Standards for Educational Leadership standards (PSEL, national standards), International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards, National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) standards, and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards. It is our goal that these education professionals will be:

Content

- Candidates analyze data and develop a plan to enable continuous improvement to promote the academic success and well-being of all students.

- Candidates evaluate the comprehensive systems that cultivate a caring, rigorous, and supportive school community that promotes the academic success and well-being of all students.

Critical Thinking

- Candidates design effective plans to build the collective and individual professional capacity of school personnel by creating support systems and offering professional learning to promote the academic success and well-being of all students
- Candidates evaluate current systems to school operations and resources to cultivate a safe school environment, and promote the academic success and well-being of All students.

Communication

- Candidates design effective plans to collaborate with parents, students and other stakeholders to develop, communicate and enact a shared vision, mission and core values to promote academic success and well-being of all students.
- Candidates integrate appropriate technology, communication skills, and problem-solving techniques to utilize multiple means of reciprocal communication to build relationships and collaborate with parents, families and other stakeholders to promote the academic success and well-being of all students.

Integrity/Values

- Candidates critically reflect on the principles of professional conduct for the education profession to act ethically, and according to professional norms to promote the academic success and well-being of all students
- Candidates analyze systems that cultivate support and develop other school leaders to promote the academic success and well-being of all students.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Our students are evaluated in the first nine courses via key assignments, which are based on the Florida Educational Leadership Standards and the Florida Educational Leadership Exam competencies. Students are also assessed for all of these standards and competencies again in the culminating Principalship Course (EDA 6503). Students must pass the Florida Educational Leadership Exam in order to graduate from the program.

Job Prospects for Educational Leadership, M.Ed. Graduates

Our graduates are able to fill the number of instructional and educational leadership positions across the state of Florida. The opportunities may include dean, assistant principal, vice principal, principal, and district-level leadership positions. We are preparing effective education professionals and instructional leaders to lead in a variety of roles and to positively impact students, communities, and the world.

Find out more about Educational Leadership at UWF:

<https://onlinedegrees.uwf.edu/online-degrees/m-ed-masters-educational-leadership/>