

# Educational Policy and Leadership Studies, EdD

The Doctor of Education (EdD) in educational policy and leadership studies is designed for educators who seek a terminal doctoral degree to practice upper-level leadership in pre-kindergarten through higher education (PK-20) settings. Based on the scholar-practitioner model, the EdD differs from the PhD in that it allows for a more practical-based approach to use and perform applied research in educational settings grounded in problem-based learning pedagogy. The EdD is offered fully online with synchronous (live) instruction.

The EdD is a non-deposit degree program. Students complete a dissertation in practice based on a problem of practice in their own work setting. The dissertation proposal course serves as the equivalent of the comprehensive exam, and an applied dissertation is required for graduation.

## Learning Outcomes

EdD graduates will be able to:

- apply the knowledge, skills, and inquiry strategies to solve significant problems related to educational policies and practices;
- evaluate and use data to make judgments to improve practice and policy;
- understand and apply evidence of effective organizational and systemic change for equity, inclusion, and justice;
- frame situations from multiple perspectives;
- identify and meet contemporary challenges facing schools and higher education;
- embrace differences of persons and perspectives;
- develop a critical and professional perspective that is ethical and promotes change for equity and inclusion;
- link theory with systematic inquiry and assessment to improve educational policy and practice; and
- complete a dissertation in practice using scholarly methods to address field-based problems and develop meaningful solutions.