Educational Policy and Leadership Studies, Ed.S.

Educational Leadership

The Specialist in Education program in educational policy and leadership studies with an educational leadership subprogram requires 36 s.h. of graduate credit. The program prepares candidates to be superintendents in Iowa or to hold other district-level leadership positions in K-12 school districts. It also prepares them for appointments as area education agency chief administrators and for jobs in state or federal departments of education.

Students must complete 26 s.h. of coursework. They also must complete 10 s.h. of clinical work and present an entry plan. Many educational leadership courses are offered by distance education; see MyUI for information about courses offered during current semesters. At the conclusion of the program, students are required to present their first-year entry plan. For detailed information, refer to Ed.S. programs on the Educational Leadership web page.

Students seeking superintendent endorsement must have an Iowa administrator license. They obtain the superintendent endorsement (State of Iowa endorsement 171) upon completing the required Ed.S. coursework and at least three years of principal experience.

Admission

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College and of the educational leadership program. Required application materials include transcripts, official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores, three letters of recommendation, and a personal statement of career goals. Admission is based on grade-point average and GRE scores, promise for scholarly and professional growth, and recommendations. Application deadline for fall semester is July 1; for spring semester, December 1; and for summer session, April 30. Complete applications are reviewed as they are received.

School Curriculum and Assessment Policy

The Specialist in Education program in educational policy and leadership studies with a school curriculum and assessment policy subprogram requires 36 s.h. of graduate credit beyond the master's degree (required credit may vary depending on a student's academic background, experiences, needs, and interests).

The interdisciplinary program trains graduate students to become school leaders who know how to use assessment information for accountability purposes and curriculum evaluation.

The program offers concentrations in policy, measurement and statistics, and curriculum and draws on coursework from across the College of Education. Graduates are qualified to serve as educational leaders in the areas of school policy, assessment, and curriculum at federal, state, and district levels.

For more information on the school curriculum and assessment policy programs, see the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership Studies.

Admission

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College and of the school curriculum and assessment policy program. Factors considered include recommendations, grade-point average, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores, one to two page statement of goals, and other evidence of academic ability and professional promise. Application deadline for fall semester is July 1; for spring semester, December 1; and for summer session, April 30.

Higher Education and Student Affairs

The Specialist in Education program in educational policy and leadership studies with a higher education and student affairs subprogram requires 60 s.h. of graduate credit. The program provides advanced graduate study in administration, policy studies, and specializations developed in consultation with an advisor.

The Ed.S. also may be awarded upon completion of a combined program of graduate work in higher education and another academic field, or upon completion of a higher education sequence following a master's degree program in a different field.

Required Courses

The Ed.S. program of study must include the following.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Education and Related Field Courses</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialization Area Courses</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives (approved by a student's advisor)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EPLS:7395 Educational Specialist Research</td>
<td>4</td>
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Total Hours 60

Depending on the student's career goals, the program may include an appropriate structured and supervised internship, determined in consultation with the advisor.

Comprehensive Examination

A culminating experience is required of all students, the nature of which will be contracted with the advisor. An oral examination of the culminating experience may be required.

Related Field

Students majoring in another field who want to complete a related field in higher education and student affairs should consult with a higher education and student affairs faculty member early in their study. Plans of study are developed individually.

Admission

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College. Admission is based on grade-point average, Graduate Record Exam (GRE) General Test scores, and promise for professional growth. Transcripts, GRE scores, three letters of recommendation, and a statement of educational goals are required.