

Educational Policy and Leadership Studies, EdS

Educational Leadership

The Specialist in Education program in educational policy and leadership studies with an educational leadership subprogram requires 60 s.h. of graduate credit and is offered for educators who already have their master's degree and Iowa administrator license. Students must earn a UI cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.00 in major coursework.

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 can transfer up to 30 s.h. from a previously earned master's degree. Students must complete a minimum of 30 s.h. of coursework at UI after program admission. This is generally comprised of 20 s.h. of coursework and 10 s.h. of clinical work. At the conclusion of the program, students are required to present their first-year entry plan. Many educational leadership courses are offered synchronously via distance education; see MyUI for information about courses offered during current semesters. For detailed information, refer to EdS programs on the Educational Leadership website.

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

The EdS in educational policy and leadership studies with an educational leadership subprogram requires the following work.

Required Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
EPLS:6270	Policy and Politics	3
EPLS:6315	Orientation to the Superintendency	2
EPLS:6317	Operational Leadership and Management	2
EPLS:6319	Human Resources Leadership	2
EPLS:6321	Social Advocacy Summit	1
EPLS:6323	School Finance	2
EPLS:6325	Organizational and Educational Leadership	2
EPLS:6329	Legislative Summit	1
EPLS:6265	Standards-Based Education and Accountability	3
Electives		2-3

The course EPLS:6323 School Finance is provided through the Iowa Superintendent's Finance and Leadership Consortium (ISFLC), a partnership between the University of Northern

Iowa and the Iowa Association of School Boards. Students enroll and participate in the two 2-day sessions offered yearly by ISFLC. During the first session, all students take the introductory school finance course. During the second session, students may choose from a variety of related school finance offerings.

Students enroll in this program through University of Northern Iowa Continuing Education and are expected to transfer the hours to the University of Iowa so they may count toward the superintendent's endorsement.

Clinical Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
EPLS:6404	Central Administration Clinical	3
EPLS:6405	Superintendent Entry Plan and Portfolio Development	1
EPLS:6415	Orientation to the Superintendency: Clinical	2
EPLS:6417	Operational Leadership Clinical	1
EPLS:6419	Human Resources Leadership Clinical (Iowa Evaluator Approval Training opportunity is available through AEA PD Online; contact the closest AEA for information.)	2
EPLS:6425	Organizational and Educational Leadership Clinical	1

Students are required to spend 40 clock hours of effort for each semester hour of clinical courses. Documentation of these hours must be maintained and submitted at the end of the course. Documentation should include the date, time spent, description of the activity, and reflections. Each activity must be identified with the corresponding National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) standard. A syllabus will be provided to guide the clinical activity.

Final Examination

The final exam is satisfied by taking EPLS:6405 Superintendent Entry Plan and Portfolio Development.

Superintendent Endorsement

Students seeking superintendent endorsement must have an Iowa administrator license. They obtain the superintendent endorsement (State of Iowa endorsement 171) upon completing the required EdS 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. Complete applications are reviewed as they are received.