

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership

Levels of Specialization

- **PK12 Leadership**
- **Curriculum and Instruction**
- **Educational Instructional Technology**
- **Higher Education Leadership**

Program Purpose

The applied doctorate in Education is designed to provide an avenue for practitioners to complete a terminal degree in the profession. The program is rooted in authentic experiences, case studies, problem based learning activities, and an integrated practicum, in addition to the requisite theory and knowledge base commensurate with the terminal degree. The target audience includes individuals aspiring to be educational leaders, including administrators, supervisors, master teachers, policy specialists, and other educational professions at all levels.

The delivery design of the program is to integrate leadership as a theme throughout the selected area of specialization: Curriculum and Instruction, Higher Education Leadership, PK-12 Leadership and Educational Instructional Technology. Program delivery is via the cohort model spanning two years of study with the practicum and dissertation completed in the third year. Course load and sequencing is designed to be attainable for the practitioner. Content mastery and research will require an authentic connection between theory and practice.

Special Admission Criteria

Successful applicants must hold a master's degree from a recognized accredited institution and have earned a GPA of 3.0 or above in master's study. Applicants must submit three (3) letters of professional recommendation, statement of purpose, and resume. Applicants will also be asked to submit to an oral interview and complete a written problem-solving prompt.

Cohorts of not more than 25 are admitted in the summer semester and will be admitted no more frequently than alternate years per site at the FSU campus or University System of Maryland at Hagerstown.

For more information:

Office of Graduate Services
301.687.7053
gradservices@frostburg.edu

Coordinator:

Dr. Heather Hurst
Department of Educational Professions
301.687.4757
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Program Curriculum

(60 credits)

The program consists of a minimum of 60 hours of graduate study in the following areas:

Educational Leadership Core (33 credits)

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|------|-----|--|----------------------|
| EDLP | 714 | Introduction to Educational Leadership | Doctoral Studies (3) |
| EDLP | 715 | Introductory Seminar in Educational Leadership (3) | |
| EDLP | 716 | Organizational Change and Leadership Theory (3) | |
| EDLP | 781 | Educational History, Politics and Policy of American Education (3) | |
| EDLP | 785 | Educational Assessment (3) | |
| EDLP | 801 | Leadership in a Diverse Educational Environment (3) | |
| EDLP | 806 | Educational Research I (3) | |
| EDLP | 807 | Educational Research II (3) | |
| EDLP | 808 | Applying Theory and Research to Practice (3) | |
| EDLP | 840 | Strategic Planning & Data-Informed Decision Making (3) | |
| EDLP | 900 | Capstone Seminar (3) | |

Specialization (9 credits)

PK12 Leadership

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| EDAD | 742 | Human Resources (3) |
| EDAD | 743 | Educational Law and Ethics (3) |
| EDAD | 744 | Educational Finance (3) |

Curriculum and Instruction

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| CUIN | 722 | Curriculum and Instructional Leadership (3) |
| CUIN | 723 | Planning and Implementing Curriculum and Instructional Change – Becoming a Change Agent (3) |
| CUIN | 724 | Planning and Conducting Professional/Staff Development & Training (3) |

Higher Education Leadership

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| HIED | 752 | Higher Education Structure and Governance (3) |
| HIED | 753 | Higher Education Finance (3) |
| HIED | 754 | Current Issues in Higher Education Leadership and Law (3) |

Educational Instructional Technology

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| EDTC | 762 | Leading Instructional Design Initiatives (3) |
| EDTC | 763 | Leadership for Web-based Instructional Delivery (3) |
| EDTC | 764 | Ethics & Social Responsibility in Distance Education (3) |

Practicum (6 credits)

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| EDLP | 901 | Doctoral Practicum I (3) |
| EDLP | 902 | Doctoral Practicum II (3) |

Dissertation (12 credits*)

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| EDLP | 912 | Dissertation (1-12) |
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*Individuals not completing the dissertation by the end of EDLP 912 must maintain continuous enrollment of at least one (1) dissertation credit each semester until final approval of the manuscript is completed in accordance with the published deadlines.

With approval of the program coordinator, a student may elect to take one course outside the selected specialization area.

Special Degree Requirements

Academic Progress

Candidates must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA throughout. When a candidate's GPA falls below a 3.0, he/she is placed on academic probation and has a maximum of two semesters of graduate study (including summer) to achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0. If after two semesters, a candidate has not achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.0, he/she will be dismissed from the program. Any candidate who earns a course grade below a C will be dismissed from the program. Appeals for probation and dismissal can be considered by the Dean's office if extraordinary circumstances exist.

Advancement to Degree Candidacy: cohort members will be considered to have advanced to degree candidacy when both the comprehensive exam has been passed and the candidate has successfully completed a minimum of 39 credits. Candidates not advancing to degree candidacy by the end of 12 semesters of enrollment will be dismissed from the program.

The Dissertation: by the end of the second summer of study, candidates will have devised a proposal for research. Candidates will form a Dissertation Committee of three (3) professors, one of whom will have agreed to serve as Chair, and will present and have approved by them a research topic and proposal for the dissertation. Typically the dissertation proposal consists of the first three chapters of the dissertation: Introduction, Literature Review, and Research Methodology. Once approved by the Committee and received IRB approval, the candidate is authorized to conduct the study. Candidates may secure one member of the committee external to the university.

Authorization for publication of all or a portion of the dissertation prior to its successful defense must be discussed between the candidate and the Dissertation Committee chair.

The Dissertation Defense: upon completion of all examinations, coursework and research, the candidate will present the final study to the Dissertation Committee, which will then determine the quality and success of the presentation and defense, directing any changes and edits as necessary. The Doctor of Education degree is the highest degree awarded by the university and is granted only upon sufficient evidence of high attainment in scholarship and the ability to engage in independent research. Dissertations must be successfully presented and unanimously approved by the Dissertation Committee for degree completion.