

Admission Requirements, Procedure, and Review for the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership P-20

Admission Requirements

Applicants for the Doctor of Education degree in P-20 Educational Leadership program must:

1. Hold a master's degree and have completed or be within 6 hours of completing a program of study (24 hours minimum above a master's degree) for a district-level license in leadership from a regionally accredited college/university.
2. Hold a minimum of an initial building-level administrative license in leadership. Some building-level administrative experience is preferable but not required.
3. Have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 on all graduate work documented by official transcripts.
4. Complete the MAT with a target score of 396 or the GRE with a target composite score of 900 on the verbal and quantitative sections.
5. Provide 3 recommendations from individuals who are well acquainted with the applicant's professional or academic abilities and performance.

Application Procedure

To begin the process of admission, the applicant will be required to submit:

1. An application form for admission. Forms may be obtained online at <www.harding.edu/education/Grad.html> or by contacting the Chair of Graduate Studies in Education, Box 12261, Searcy, AR 72149-2261; or e-mail <gradstudiesedu@harding.edu>
2. A non-refundable \$40 application fee that accompanies the application. The fee will not apply against the general registration fee if the applicant enrolls.
3. All official graduate transcripts with proof of a master's degree and the completion (or within 6 hours of completion) of a program of study (24 hours minimum above a master's degree) for a district-level license in leadership.
4. A required MAT or GRE test score.
5. A copy of a current teaching license including at least an initial building level license.
6. 3 references that attest to professional and academic abilities and performance. Forms may be obtained online at <www.harding.edu/education/Grad.html> or by contacting the Chair of Graduate Studies in Education, Box 12261, Searcy, AR 72149-2261; or e-mail <gradstudiesedu@harding.edu>
7. A copy of a VITA inclusive of work experience and professional accomplishments.
8. A copy of 2 writing artifacts from previous work (thesis, research paper, journal article, field study, grant, specialist project, etc.).
9. A copy of the list of technology skills.

Application Review and Selection of Candidates

The purpose of the Doctoral Admissions Committee is to review the data submitted for entry into the doctoral program. Because selection is based on a composite evaluation, the committee will determine the admission or non-admission of the applicant. The Doctoral Admissions Committee decision is final and not subject to appeal. Admission is based on the evaluation of the following components:

1. All items listed under the application procedure.
2. Presentation/Interview. The applicant will make a presentation based on specific criteria to the program area graduate faculty. The presentation and the interview that follows will determine the candidate's professional objectives, professional commitment, ability to discuss professional problems, and the compatibility of the Doctor of Education degree in P-20 Educational Leadership program with his or her goals and interest.
3. Impromptu Writing Sample. After the interview, an impromptu writing sample will be completed. A Writing Review Committee will use an objective rubric to evaluate all writing samples as a way of determining the applicant's level of writing skill and analytical ability. If writing and analytical skills are found to be less than acceptable, an applicant may be admitted to the program on a provisional basis for no more than two semesters. A doctoral student who receives provisional admission must successfully complete a personalized writing improvement plan designed by the Writing Review Committee, which may require attendance at tutoring sessions at the main campus. Only upon successful completion of the personalized writing improvement plan, which will include a retest, can a student be admitted without condition. A student cannot remain in provisional status for more than two semesters. Additional information may be requested from the applicant prior to final approval for admittance to the Doctoral Program. Applicants are notified in writing regarding their acceptance, provisional acceptance, or non-acceptance to the program.