Admission Requirements for P-20 Educational Leadership Ed.D.

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 administrative license in leadership from a regionally accredited college/university.

2. Hold a minimum of a standard 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 40 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 administrative 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.

**Prerequisites**

Prerequisites to the degree program include the following items:

1. A master’s degree from a regionally accredited college/university.
2. A completed (or within 6 hours of completing) program of study (24 hours minimum above a master’s degree) for a district-level administrative license in leadership from a regionally accredited college or university.
3. A minimum of a standard building-level administrative license in leadership.

**Other Program Requirements**

1. Upon acceptance into the program, students must consult with Director of Educational Leadership concerning the required course of study, register for classes online through Campus Pipeline each semester, and complete financial registration with the Business Office online.
2. The program of study (24 hours minimum above a master’s degree) for a district-level administrative license in leadership will not be included within the 39-hour minimum requirement for the doctoral degree.
3. All requirements of the program must be completed within seven years from the time of acceptance into the doctoral program.

**Transfer Students**

Doctoral students can transfer up to six hours of graduate coursework if it is pre-approved by the Chair of Graduate Studies in Education and is completed by the time specified by the Chair.

**Academic Standing Requirements**

The Doctor of Education degree in P-20 Educational Leadership requires a grade point average (GPA) of B (3.0) for graduation. When a student’s average falls below B (3.0), he or she is placed on academic probation and must bring his or her GPA up to 3.0 by the end of the next term after being placed on probation or face dismissal from the program. No more than six semester hours of C work may be included as degree credit. A grade lower than C renders the credit unacceptable for meeting degree requirements.
Degree Requirements and Curriculum

1. Degree Requests (Graduation). Requests for degree may be submitted prior to a student’s final semester but must be submitted no later than the first week of the final semester. The graduation fee must be paid to the Business Office the last semester before graduation.

2. Curriculum Summary. To earn this degree, students must successfully complete (1) a 24 hour program of study above a master’s degree for a district-level administrative license in leadership (2) the 39 hour doctoral degree curriculum, which includes coursework, a dissertation, a written, and an oral comprehensive examination.

3. Curriculum. A minimum of 63 hours over the master’s degree will be required to obtain the doctoral degree.

District Level Licensure program of study (minimum 24 hours above a master’s degree)

I. District Level Licensure Core Courses in leadership (21 hours)
   EDFD 647 Data-Driven Evaluation for School Improvement 3
   EDL 739 Human Resources Administration in Education 3
   EDL 769 School Finance for District Level Administration 3
   EDL 770 School Plant and Facilities 3
   EDL 773 The Superintendency and School Board Relations 3
   EDL 774 Advanced Leadership and Supervision 3
   EDL 775 District Administrator Internship 3

II. District Level Licensure Elective Course in leadership (3 hours, completes the 24 hour district program)
   This must be approved by the program director. It is strongly recommended that EDFD 652 Research Methods be used as the elective course if a recent research course has not been taken.
   Any courses taken as part of another degree cannot be counted toward this Doctor of Education degree in P-20 Educational Leadership.

Doctor of Education degree in P-20 Educational Leadership program of study (minimum 39 hours)

I. Doctoral Degree Research Core (19 hours)
   EDFD 805 Introduction to Statistical Techniques 3
   EDFD 815 Advanced Statistical Techniques 3
   EDFD 852 Advanced Research Methods in Education 3
   EDFD 890 Dissertation 10

II. Doctoral Degree Knowledge Core (12 hours)
   EDL 800 Legal, Political and Ethical Issues in Higher Educational Leadership 3
   EDL 820 Strategic Planning and Assessment 3
   EDL 830 Higher Education Administration 3
   EDL 840 P-20 School Personnel Management 3

III. Doctoral Degree Leadership Core (6 hours)
   EDL 850 Higher Education Finance 3
   EDL 870 The Dissertation Writing Process 3

IV. Doctoral Degree Spiritual Core (2 hours)
   EDL 849 Ethical Educational Christian Leadership 2

NOTE: A candidate must complete a written and an oral comprehensive exam for completion of this degree.