

## **Admission Requirements for Educational Leadership Ed.D.**

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicants for the Doctorate in Educational Leadership degree program must:

#### **Track 1 (Educational Leadership Ed.D. with an emphasis in P-20 Education Leadership)**

1. Hold a master's degree and have completed or be within six hours of completing a program of study (24 credit 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.

#### **Track 2 (Educational Leadership Ed.D. with an emphasis in Higher Education Leadership)**

1. Complete or be within six hours of completing 60 credit hours above a bachelor's degree that includes 600/6000-level courses or above. Applicants coming with credit hours or a degree above their bachelor's degree must submit their transcripts for review by the program director. After a transcript evaluation, applicants will be given a crafted plan that outlines any remaining coursework required, if applicable. Applicants enter with the understanding that not all of the classwork might substitute or satisfy the requirements for entry into the doctoral program. In addition, courses taken as part of the 60-credit hour requirement cannot be counted toward the 39-credit hour doctoral degree.
2. Some professional work experience is preferable but not required.

#### **Track 1 and Track 2**

3. Have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 on all graduate work documented by official transcripts of all graduate work.
4. Complete the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) with a minimum score of 396 or the GRE with a minimum composite score of 900 on the verbal and quantitative sections.
5. Provide three recommendations from individuals who are well acquainted with the applicant's professional performance and academic abilities.

### **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](http://www.harding.edu/education/grad)> or by contacting the Educational Leadership Office, HU12261, Searcy, AR 72149-5615; or e-mail [edleadership@harding.edu](mailto:edleadership@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 completion of the required coursework depending upon your application track.
4. A required MAT or GRE test score.
5. A copy of a current teaching license including at least an initial building level license (only required for Track 1 applicants).

6. Three recommendations that attest to professional performance and academic abilities. Forms may be obtained online at <[www.harding.edu/education/grad](http://www.harding.edu/education/grad)> or by contacting the Educational Leadership Office, HU 12261, Searcy, AR 72149-5615; or e-mail [edleadership@harding.edu](mailto:edleadership@harding.edu).
7. A copy of a curricula vitae inclusive of work experience and professional accomplishments.
8. A copy of two writing artifacts from previous work (thesis, research paper, journal article, field study, grant, specialist project, etc.).
9. A 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.

Applicants for the Doctoral Educational Leadership Degree program must:

1. Submit to a personal interview with the program area graduate faculty. This interview will determine the candidate's professional objectives, professional commitment, ability to discuss professional problems, and the compatibility of the Doctorate in Educational Leadership Program with his or her goals and interest.
2. At the time of the interview, complete an impromptu writing sample.

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 on 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.

### **Other Program Requirements**

1. Upon acceptance into the program, students must consult with director of the program 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. *Track 1 applicants:* 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.

*Track 2 applicants:* Courses taken as part of the 60-credit hour requirement above a bachelor's degree that includes 600/6000-level courses or above cannot be counted toward the 39-credit hour 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 may transfer up to six hours of doctoral-level graduate coursework if pre-approved by the program director and completed prior to the completion of the last semester prior to the beginning of the dissertation.

### **Academic Standing Requirements**

The ED.D. degree in Educational Leadership requires a grade point average (GPA) of B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) for graduation. When a student's average falls below a "B" (3.0), he or she is placed on academic probation and must bring up his or her GPA up to 3.0 by the end of the next term 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 the 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 the doctoral degree, students must successfully complete:  
*Track 1 applicants:* (1) A master's degree, (2) a 24-credit hour (minimum) program of study at the district level (or its equivalent), and then, the 39-credit hour ED.D. degree in Educational Leadership program of study, which includes coursework and a dissertation (approximately 99 credit hours above a bachelor's degree).  
*Track 2 applicants:* (1) The 60 credit-hour (minimum) requirement above a bachelor's degree that includes 600/6000-level courses or above in a professional field of study, and then, (2) the 39-credit hour ED.D. degree in Educational Leadership program of study, which includes coursework and a dissertation (99 credit hours above a bachelor's degree).

### **Track 1 Applicants: 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 6470 Data-Driven Evaluation for School Improvement (3 hrs)

EDL 7390 Human Resources Administration in Education (3 hrs)

EDL 7690 School Finance for District Level Administration (3 hrs)

EDL 7700 School Plant and Facilities (3 hrs)

EDL 7730 The Superintendency and School Board Relations (3 hrs)

EDL 7740 Advanced Leadership and Supervision (3 hrs)

EDL 7750 District Administrator Internship (0, 3 hrs)

#### *II. District Level Licensure Elective Course in leadership (3 hours, completes the 24 hour district program)*

- This course must be approved by the program director. It is strongly recommended that EDFD 6520 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 ED.D. degree in Educational Leadership.
- This completes the 24-hour district program of study.

**Track 2 applicants: 60-credit hour requirement above a bachelor's degree (600/6000-level courses or above)**

*I. Required Core Course (3 hours)*

- EDFD 6520 - Research Methods (3 hrs) (or its equivalent, an action research course will not substitute or satisfy this requirement)

*II. Courses transferred or taken at the University (57 hours)*

- Courses must be approved by the program director through a transcript evaluation or must be pre-approved if taken at the University. Any courses taken to meet this requirement cannot be counted toward the doctoral degree. Courses meeting this requirement must be 600/6000-level courses or above.
- This requirement is used as a prerequisite for the ED.D. degree, but acceptance into the doctoral program is not guaranteed. Acceptance into the Educational Leadership doctoral program is not automatic upon completing this requirement; other requirements for the doctoral program must be satisfied.

**Ed.D. degree in Educational Leadership program of study (minimum 39 hours)**

*I. Doctoral Degree Research Core (9 hours)*

EDFD 8050 Introduction to Statistical Techniques (3 hrs)

EDFD 8150 Advanced Statistical Techniques (3 hrs)

EDFD 8520 Advanced Research Methods in Education (3 hrs)

*II. Doctoral Degree Knowledge Core (12 hours)*

EDL 8000 Legal, Political and Ethical Issues in Higher Education Leadership (3 hrs)

EDL 8200 Strategic Planning and Assessment (3 hrs)

EDL 8300 Higher Education Administration (3 hrs)

EDL 8400 Leadership and Human Resources (3 hrs)

*III. Doctoral Degree Leadership Core (6 hours)*

EDL 8500 Higher Education Finance (3 hrs)

EDL 8700 The Dissertation Writing Process (3 hrs)

*IV. Doctoral Degree Spiritual Core (2 hours)*

EDL 8490 Ethical Educational Christian Leadership (2 hrs)

*V. Doctoral Degree Dissertation (10 hours minimum)*

EDFD 8900 Dissertation (1-6 hrs)