Purpose of Program

The primary objective of the doctoral degree program is to provide advanced academic training in educational and administrative leadership with an emphasis in K-12 leadership or higher education administration. Doctoral students obtain advanced academic training in educational leadership focused on theories of education and learning; emerging paradigms of organizational leadership; and high-level research skills for developing, analyzing, and evaluating educational programs and practices. The program prepares students to become transformational leaders and faculty members who can work effectively in diverse, ambiguous, and challenging contexts. The program emphasizes equity, excellence, social justice, democracy, risk-taking, and responsiveness to community needs.

Program Options

An Ed.D. in Educational Leadership requires a minimum of 60 credit hours. Fifty-one hours are classes and the remaining 9 hours are dissertation courses:

- 9 hours of Cultural Core
- 12 hours of Methodology
- 12 hours of Leadership
- 12 hours of Emphasis (K-12 leadership or higher education administration)
- 6 hours of Cognate Support
- 9 hours of Dissertation (credit given upon completion and formal approval of thesis)

Students are assigned a faculty advisor based on their research interests and may change advisors based on evolving research interests. Students work closely with their dissertation advisors on their qualifying examination, dissertation proposal, and dissertation. This collaboration keeps students on track to complete their doctoral dissertation.

Career Opportunities

Graduates have a number of diverse career options such as: Assistant Principal, Principal, Assistant and Deputy Superintendent, Superintendent, Curriculum Coordinator, University Professor, Higher Education Administration positions in Universities and Community Colleges, etc.

Completing my doctorate degree in educational leadership has opened doors and opportunities for me I never could have imagined when I decided to enter the program. The research opportunities here in the college have taken me around the globe.

– Vanessa Kennon, Doctoral Graduate
Admission Requirements

Applicant must meet UTSA Graduate School admission requirements and submit the following:

- Official transcripts from all institutions previously attended
- A master’s degree from an accredited institution with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.5
- Submission of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- A resume or curriculum vitae demonstrating leadership experience in an educational environment
- Three letters of recommendation from professionals (at least one letter should come from a university professor familiar with the applicant’s academic work)
- A statement of purpose outlining applicant’s: (1) reasons for pursuing doctoral degree; (2) biographical sketch of experiences in the field of education; (3) career plans; (4) scholarly interests; and (5) views on and roles in current and future educational reform efforts

** Only applications certified as complete by the Graduate School will be considered. For additional requirements to complete application, or admission assistance, please visit the graduate school website at graduateschool.utsa.edu.

How to Apply

Apply through the UTSA Graduate School

graduateschool.utsa.edu

Send all USPS mail (transcripts, etc.) to:

The University of Texas at San Antonio
Attn: The Graduate School
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, TX 78249

Contact Information

College of Education and Human Development

education.utsa.edu
education@utsa.edu
210.458.4370

Graduate School

graduateschool.utsa.edu
graduatestudies@utsa.edu
210.458.4330

Financial Aid and Scholarships

To apply, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA)

fafsa.ed.gov

Graduate assistantship positions available within the college (average of 19 hours per week)

Additional graduate student scholarship information:

graduateschool.utsa.edu/funding
utsa.edu/scholarships
education.utsa.edu/current_students/scholarships

Financial Aid

utsa.edu/financialaid
210.458.8000 (general line)
210.458.7169 (appointments)