

# Educational Leadership Doctoral Program



SFA offers a doctoral degree in educational leadership with specializations in curriculum and administration in public schools, specifically the superintendency. This program is designed to prepare scholar-practitioners for leadership positions. Within this program, designed for doctoral students who are fully employed in school districts or other educational agencies, there is content-specific coursework and summer field-based leadership internships in settings meant to be mutually beneficial to the host site and the doctoral student.

## SFA PREPARES SCHOLAR LEADERS WHO

- ★ Demonstrate leadership and provide service in P-20 education
- ★ Engage in disciplined inquiry and reflective practice
- ★ Apply theory and contextual knowledge to educational practice
- ★ Practice analytical and communication skills in leadership roles
- ★ Apply research aimed toward improvement and innovation in P-20 education settings
- ★ Understand and practice ethical and moral responsibilities of leadership

## DOCTORAL PROGRAM FEATURES

- ★ 66-hour program for a doctoral degree in educational leadership
- ★ An emphasis in educational leadership and administration, superintendency and curriculum
- ★ Challenging, relevant curriculum
- ★ Alternating weekend class schedule with some technology-based experiences and/or learning modules
- ★ Collegial support through cohort design
- ★ Summer leadership internships in field-based settings

## SPECIALIZATIONS PREPARE LEADERS TO BE

- ★ Recognized professionals
- ★ Innovators in their field
- ★ Superintendents
- ★ Principals and school leaders
- ★ Educational leadership faculty members in higher education institutions
- ★ College/university administrators
- ★ State and federal educational policy analysts
- ★ Institutional and agency researchers
- ★ Curriculum specialists

**Application deadline: March 1**  
**New cohorts begin in early June**  
**of each year.**

*For more information,  
email [edd@sfasu.edu](mailto:edd@sfasu.edu) or  
call (936) 468-2549.*



**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

James I. Perkins  
College of Education



**NCATE**



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
STATE UNIVERSITY

---

## Educational Leadership Doctoral Program

P. O. Box 6103, SFA Station \* Nacogdoches, Texas 75962

Office – (936) 468-2549 \* FAX (936) 468-1577

edd@sfasu.edu

Thank you for your interest in the doctoral program. As you may know, our doctoral program was designed with an emphasis on the educational leader as scholar-practitioner. We are excited about the opportunity to work with individuals who are interested in and committed to pursuing a doctorate in education with an emphasis in educational leadership. The cohort design of the doctoral program will enable students and faculty alike to engage in doctoral studies as they learn together, with the idea that we are all part of a learning community.

As you move forward in your decision to be a part of the next doctoral cohort, please complete the required application materials and return to the appropriate office. If there is any assistance we can provide during the application process, please feel free to call our office. Enclosed you will find all the necessary materials and forms for completion and return. Before your application for admission to the program can be considered, we require:

1. Application to the Graduate School at this site:  
[https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c\\_start.WBX?s\\_logon\\_msg=Y](https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX?s_logon_msg=Y)
2. Official transcripts of all college/university credits
3. Completion of Master's Degree in Education or related field
4. Verbal and quantitative scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). The GRE must be completed prior to application and the presented scores must be recent—within the last 10 years.
5. Application to the doctoral program (page 3).
6. Names, addresses (postal and email), and telephone numbers of four references:
  - i. an immediate or past employer or supervisor, and/or
  - ii. a professional colleague, and/or
  - iii. a professor in graduate work, and/or
  - iv. a community member or personal reference
7. A current resume
8. A leadership profile (see page 6 of this document for Leadership Profile guidelines).
9. **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION:**  
Regular application deadline: January 30<sup>th</sup>  
Final application deadline: March 1<sup>st</sup>

Carefully review all application materials and forms, completing each with all required information. The Leadership Profile as well as other professional information should be submitted electronically.

Please return the official transcript and GRE scores to:

The Graduate School  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
P. O. Box 13024-SFA Station  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962-3024

Please email the doctoral program application, list of references, current resume, and leadership profile to:

Stacy Hendricks, Acting Doctoral Program Coordinator  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
[edd@sfasu.edu](mailto:edd@sfasu.edu)

Note: All materials inclusive of transcripts and GRE scores (within the last 10 years) must be received PRIOR to being considered for the program. Direct any questions related to the application process to the Doctoral Program Coordinator (Dr. Stacy Hendricks, 936-468-2549 or [edd@sfasu.edu](mailto:edd@sfasu.edu)). Again, thank you for your interest and we look forward to working with you in the future.



**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Educational Leadership Doctoral Program**

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE DOCTORAL PROGRAM**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

LAST NAME: FIRST NAME: MI:

\_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: CITY:

\_\_\_\_\_

STATE: ZIP CODE: PHONE:

\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION FOR RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP**

A limited number of research assistantships are available. Each assistantship will offer a stipend of \$20,000 per year and is renewable for up to a total of three years. The assistantship is a 12 month contract subject to SFA policy. Each assistantship recipient will be obligated to work twenty (20) hours per week and will, therefore, need to be a full-time (Monday through Friday) doctoral student; classes will be taken on a schedule to be determined along with the other members of the cohort. This is a 12 month appointment with time of appointment provided after acceptance to the doctoral program. If you are interested in being considered for a research assistantship, please indicate below.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am interested in being considered for a research assistantship.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I am not interested in being considered for a research assistantship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Educational Leadership Doctoral Program**

The Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) with an emphasis in educational leadership is a terminal degree offered in the James I. Perkins College of Education. The degree program provides advanced preparation in educational leadership with a specific focus on the leader as a scholar-practitioner. It is designed as a cohort program to prepare leader-practitioners in advanced leadership.

### **Admission Requirements**

#### **■ How to apply:**

Obtain necessary forms from the educational leadership program coordinator and the Office of the Graduate School.

#### **◆ Applicants must possess:**

- ◆ a master's degree in education or a related field from an accredited college or university
- ◆ 3.5 (4.0 scale) average of course work completed for all graduate work
- ◆ a composite score in the range of 151 on the Verbal and a 149 on the Quantitative section of the GRE (within the last **ten** years) and completed before the deadline for application
- ◆ leadership experience

#### **◆ Applicant must submit:**

- ◆ an application online at [https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c\\_start.WBX?s\\_logon\\_msg=Y](https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX?s_logon_msg=Y) (includes an application fee of \$50 to graduate school)
- ◆ the following forms electronically to the educational leadership program coordinator at [edd@sfasu.edu](mailto:edd@sfasu.edu).
  - ❖ application to doctoral program
  - ❖ a list of four references should be included as outlined in the application forms
  - ❖ a current resume
  - ❖ a leadership profile (see Leadership Profile guidelines on page 6)

**\*\*An applicant from a foreign country must meet the same requirements for admission as a student from the United States. If any applicant's primary language is not English, the applicant must present satisfactory scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) as required.**

## **Application Procedures**

- Step 1: All materials completed within the deadline.
- Step 2: Educational leadership faculty review all materials.
- Step 3: A pool of applicants is selected and notified. An applicant participates in an interview, gives a brief presentation, and completes a written experience which are conducted by educational leadership faculty.
- Step 4: Educational leadership faculty assess and select cohort members.
- Step 5: Applicant accepts invitation, enters the degree program, and begins course work in the summer.

## **Program Structure**

### **Cohort Design**

The degree program is offered as a cohort design which precludes self-selection into any required course related to the program of study. All students granted admission to the degree program will be members of a cohort and must complete all course work as a member of the cohort for which they were admitted in the related academic year of admission. In the event of withdrawal from the cohort program by a student, and upon election by the student to seek reentry to the program, a student will submit a letter of request to the educational leadership program coordinator for review and consideration by the educational leadership faculty for continuance in the degree program.

### **Courses**

Currently, almost all courses are face-to-face with a small portion of some courses including Zoom and Brightspace. This doctoral program is in a transition phase where more courses are using the hybrid model, some face-to-face class time and some online components.

Each cohort begins in Summer I. All face-to-face class sessions are on the Stephen F. Austin State University campus. During fall and spring semesters of the first year, students fulfill the SFA residency requirement by taking three required courses each semester.

A student must take a total of at least 66 semester hours of graduate course work and must demonstrate her/his successful completion of course work as a scholar-practitioner leader, as assessed jointly by the student and the educational leadership faculty through a portfolio assessment process (comprehensive exam for admission to candidacy). Additionally, the student must present a dissertation which demonstrates the successful design, development, implementation, completion, and defense of an approved research study in educational leadership or a related area of educational study. The scope and breadth of the program originates from an emphasis on the leader as scholar-practitioner. Currently, within the 66 semester hours, 12 are required dissertation hours and 9 additional hours are electives: curriculum or superintendent.

# **Educational Leadership Doctoral Program Stephen F. Austin State University**

## **LEADERSHIP PROFILE**

This profile is to accompany the application to the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership. The leadership profile consists of four sections including: 1) a retrospective view of the applicant's leadership experiences over time and across some specific areas; 2) a brief autobiographical sketch of the applicant which should speak to her/his life and acquaint the reader with personal and professional background or history; 3) a statement of professional goals; and 4) a review of the applicant's professional growth and development activities over the past 3-5 years which may include formal education at the graduate and undergraduate level, staff or professional development, technical training, professional presentations, etc.

The applicant should reflect on the four sections of the profile, selecting a presentation format best suited to her/his style of writing and communication. The profile should convey a personal and professional history that assists the Doctoral Faculty in beginning to know the person who is applying to the doctoral program. To this end, there is no preferred format nor structure. Please typeset the profile and submit the document in conjunction with the Doctoral Program Application form. In preparing the profile, applicants should prepare the text in double-space format with an approximate upper limit of 12 pages.