Department Mission

The education and community leadership program is committed to developing leaders who understand how to build and nurture healthy schools and communities. The program believes the practice of leadership must be ethically grounded, committed to equity and informed by research and demonstrates a strong commitment to this philosophy through a broad-based, rigorous curriculum, strong and relevant instruction and meaningful feedback to students. Effective leadership development begins with an understanding of self and progresses outward toward a critical consciousness of the interconnected relationship among people, organizations, communities, policies and practices.

Related Programs

» Superintendent Certification
» Ph.D. in School Improvement

Emphasizing social justice, the principal preparation program provided me with opportunities to engage in scholarly learning and action research that directly impact my everyday work in schools.

– Dr. Tamey Williams-Hill, Director of Human Resources, Lake Travis ISD

The program prepares equity-oriented school and community leaders to transform education at the campus level.

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Why choose Texas State?
Recognized by the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) for preparing equity-oriented leaders, the program focuses on situating school-based leaders within societal contexts and teaches students how to engage school and community assets as the foundation for improvement efforts.

The program encourages students to keep issues of equity and ethics at the forefront while developing and implementing collaborative action research strategies to effect systemic change at the campus level.

Course Work
The 36-hour M.Ed. in educational leadership program is designed for educators who aspire to formal leadership and administrative roles in schools and districts. The course sequence includes topics on leadership, school improvement, instructional design and school law with an emphasis on action research. All students complete a year-long, field-based internship and will graduate with the principal certification.

Educators who have already earned a master’s degree in education and have a minimum of one year of teaching experience in K-12 schools can take the 24-credit-hour post-master principal certification program. This program can be completed in three semesters with summer admission. Classes for both programs are offered at the San Marcos and Round Rock campuses.

Faculty
Faculty members are experienced public school teachers and administrators. This practical background enables the professors to demonstrate to students the manner by which ideas, techniques and policy studies may be applied in a school setting. The faculty is actively engaged in professional organizations at state and national levels. They also serve as consultants to numerous school districts in personnel searches, facility studies, curriculum projects, staff development and professional organization accreditation studies.

Career Options
A master’s degree in educational leadership with principal certification prepares educators for a variety of supervisory and leadership roles in schools and other educational organizations. Graduates of this program work in positions such as principal, assistant principal, academic dean, athletic director, instructional supervisor, curriculum specialist, special education director, director of student support services and human resource specialist.

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: February 1
Fall: August 1
Spring: No admission
Summer: May 1
Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.
Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for certain types of funding.

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For the most up-to-date information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/ed-leadership

Brochure Information Current as of August 2018