

Program Map

Ed.S. in Educational Leadership

Leadership, Technology, & Workforce Development
Valdosta State University



Program Overview

The Educational Specialist's Degree in Educational Leadership program is a comprehensive program of study including course work and related clinical experiences leading to a Tier II Georgia certificate in Educational Leadership. The Education Specialist's Degree program incorporates clinical practice linking theoretical and philosophical frameworks of educational leadership to actual practice. Through the combination of course work and performance-based activities, candidates will be able to develop the necessary competencies to become an educational leader.

The candidate is expected to complete significant and varied administrative responsibilities under the guidance of the Candidate Support Team (CST) consisting of the candidate, a leadership mentor, and the VSU leadership advisor. The goal is to develop one's leadership and management abilities by engaging in problem analysis, collecting relevant data, collaborative problem-solving, participating in curricular and instructional activities, and participating in instructional supervision. Candidates undertake activities addressing curriculum development, student and program evaluation, staff development, scheduling, interpretation and use of statistical data for school improvement planning, budgeting procedures, school/community relations, facility maintenance and operations, and the uses of technology for administrative and instructional purposes.

The Educational Leadership program is designed to provide future leaders:

1. An opportunity to acquire practical experience in school leadership
2. A linkage of theory and practice
3. An integrated experience in problem resolution and decision-making as well as other selected aspects of educational leadership
4. The environment to experiment with new ideas, approaches, and strategies in a low-risk, supportive environment
5. A basis for assessing professional strengths and needs for further development

Although the prescribed sequence of study is optional for the first & second terms of Year 1, the overall Ed.S. degree program of study may be completed within five semesters. The Advanced Leadership Field-based activities must be conducted at either the building or system level.

Year 1

First Term	Hrs	Second Term	Hrs
LEAD 8520: Executive Leadership for Education	3	LEAD 8620: Trends & Issues for Principals	3
LEAD 8140: Leadership for Creating an Effective Learning Environment	3	LEAD 8630: Coaching & Mentoring for High-Performing Schools	3

Year 2

First Term	Hrs	Second Term	Hrs
LEAD 8920: Advanced Leadership Field-Based Activities I	6	LEAD 8930: Advanced Leadership Field-Based Activities II	6

Program Map

Year 3

First Term	Hrs
LEAD 8940: Advanced Leadership Field-Based Activities III	6