

Program Map

M.Ed. in Educational Leadership

Leadership, Technology, & Workforce Development
Valdosta State University



Program Overview

Through the combination of course work and field experiences, candidates will be able to develop the necessary competencies to become an entry-level school leader with Tier I Educational Leadership certification. Educators certified in this field may work in school-level leadership positions below the principal and those district-level leadership positions not supervising principals. The primary goal of the Master's Degree in Educational Leadership program is to link the theoretical and philosophical frameworks of educational leadership to actual practice. This is accomplished with field experiences embedded in designated courses as a part of the candidate's program of study.

The goal is to develop the candidate'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.

The embedded field experiences are designed to:

1. Provide candidates with the opportunity to acquire practical experience in school leadership
2. Allow for the linkage of theory and practice for the candidates, staff, and practitioners
3. Provide integrating experiences for candidates in problem resolution and decision-making and selected aspects of educational leadership
4. Allow the candidate to experiment with new ideas, approaches, and strategies in a low-risk, supportive environment
5. Provide candidates with a basis for assessing their professional strengths and their needs for further development; and,
6. Enable the university to evaluate its leadership preparation programs through clinical applications

Although the prescribed sequence of study is optional, the overall M.Ed. Degree program of study may be completed within five semesters.

EFFECTIVE FALL 2026:

Year 1

First Term	Hrs	Second Term	Hrs
LEAD 7100: School Leadership	3	LEAD 7110: Inquiry Based Approaches to Curriculum Development, Revision, & Instructional Improvement	3
RSCH 8000: Advanced Research Methodology	3	LEAD 7120: Instructional Leadership & Supervisory Practices for Improved Teaching & Learning	3

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Year 2

First Term	Hrs
LEAD 8240 Managing Resources for School Improvement	3
LEAD 7020: Developing Leadership Capacity in Schools & Communities	3

Second Term	Hrs
LEAD 8030: School Culture, Change & Organizational Dynamics	3
LEAD 7420: Ethical & Legal Issues for Leadership	3

Year 3

First Term	Hrs
LEAD 7310: Leadership for Community & Public Relations	3
Choose one: LEAD 7130, ACED 7150, EDET 8005, or ITED 7200, 7300, 7400	3

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