

Professional Teaching: Educational Leadership Emphasis - Master of Science in Education

The **online** Master of Science in Education (MSED) Professional Teaching: Educational Leadership Emphasis is a 36-credit online program designed to prepare candidates for Wisconsin PK–12 principal licensure. The program is intended for Wisconsin educators with a bachelor's degree who have or are eligible for a Tier II teaching license, including teachers who will have completed at least six semesters of successful full-time classroom teaching by the end of the program, as well as Wisconsin school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers who will have completed 540 hours of classroom teaching by program completion.

Grounded in constructivist principles and culturally relevant practice, the program is delivered through a collaborative, cohort-based model in which students progress together, building a strong professional network while engaging in meaningful, practice-based inquiry. The curriculum aligns with the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) standards, the Wisconsin Administrator Standards, and fulfills the professional requirements for Wisconsin principal (5051) licensure.

Graduates of this program earn a Master of Science in Education degree and Wisconsin educators are eligible for a Wisconsin Principal License (5051).

This program is offered in an online format with cohorts typically beginning in the fall, spring and summer terms.

Program requirements

Admission

To qualify for admission to the Professional Teaching: Educational Leadership Emphasis Program, a candidate must:

- Meet all UWL graduate application requirements. (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/admissions/#apply>)
- Hold a bachelor's degree in education from an accredited institution.
- Have an overall undergraduate grade point average of 2.85 or higher on a 4.00 scale.
- Provide evidence of teaching license or certificate (i.e. copy of teaching license).
- Hold or is eligible to hold a Tier II, III, IV teacher license in K-12 and successful classroom teaching experience (will need six successful semesters of teaching experience prior to program completion).
- Provide a resume that documents at least one year of full-time teaching in a K-12 setting and current employment in a K-12 school.
- Hold or is eligible to hold a Tier II, III, IV license; six successful semesters experience as a school counselor, school psychologist or school social worker; and successful teaching experience (540 hours of successful teaching experience are required prior to program completion).
- Complete a successful criminal background check (initiated by UWL).

Admission on probation

Students may be admitted on probation if they do not meet the minimum academic or graduate program admission requirements. Upon completion of nine graduate credits or two terms (whichever comes first) with a grade point average of 3.00 or above, the students will be removed from probation. Students admitted on probation will be dismissed from graduate study if their cumulative GPA is below 3.00 after completing nine graduate credits or two terms (whichever comes first). More information is in the graduate academic eligibility policy (<https://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/academicpolicies/academiceligibility/>).

Criminal background check

The WI Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requires that candidates for admission to a teacher education, administration, or pupil services program successfully pass a criminal background check (CBC) as one criterion for admission. By applying for admission to one of these programs, candidates agree to provide the necessary personal information to UWL in order to initiate their CBC and to complete their portion of the process prior to the deadline specified in their admission letter. Program candidates are responsible for all costs associated with their criminal background check(s).

Out-of-state applicants

This program may meet other states' licensing requirements. An applicant's state may or may not require that the applicant get a Wisconsin teaching license to be endorsed for their program of study. The Wisconsin licensing process may include taking coursework in Native American Studies (ACT 31). The applicant should check with their state licensing board prior to applying to ensure they understand the appropriate pathway to meet their state's licensing requirements.

Curriculum

(36 credits)

Required coursework (listed in order of enrollment):

Code	Title	Credits
EDU 765	Introduction to Educational Leadership	3
EDU 766	The Principalship	3
EDU 767	Data-based Decision Making for Instruction	3
EDU 768	Supervision and Evaluation	3
EDU 769	Leadership and Cultural Competence	3
EDU 770	School Law	3
EDU 771	School Finance and Resource Allocation	3
EDU 772	Pedagogical Theory and Application I	2
EDU 782	Pedagogical Theory and Application II	1
EDU 773	Practicum in the Principalship and Practicum Seminar	4
EDU 641	Educational Research I: Introduction	2
EDU 642	Educational Research II: Exploration	2
EDU 743	Educational Research III: Conduct	2
EDU 744	Educational Research IV: Publication	2
Total Credits		36

Certification requirements

Eligibility for Educational Leadership (Principal 5051) certification is contingent upon:

- Cumulative graduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.
- Completion of the Educational Leadership Program coursework, associated experiences, and artifacts (including portfolio).
- Completion of DPI employment verification form (<https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/licensing/fl613.pdf>) documenting at least three years of teaching at the K-12 level or hold a WI Lifetime Educator license.

Degree requirements

University graduate degree requirements

After being admitted to the program of one's choice, candidates for a graduate degree must:

1. Complete any preliminary course work and deficiencies.
2. Complete all courses and other program requirements, including residence requirements prescribed for the degree desired in the respective school or college within a seven-year period from the date of initial enrollment, with the exception of students enrolled in the Student Affairs Administration and Leadership Ed.D. (SAA Ed.D.) graduate program. SAA Ed.D. students must complete all degree requirements within ten years from the time of initial enrollment in the graduate program.
3. Earn a minimum of 30 credits for a master's degree; 54 credits for a doctorate or post-master's degree. Earn at least one-half of the minimum number of credits required in the program in graduate-only level courses (700, 800, 900, and non-slash 600 level courses). Some UWL graduate programs require more than 30 graduate credits. Please review the individual program requirements (<http://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/>) listed in the catalog for the exact number of credits required.
4. Earn a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00.
5. Satisfy dissertation, thesis, seminar paper, terminal/graduate projects and internships, or comprehensive examination, where applicable. A dissertation or thesis approved by the committee must be submitted to Graduate & Extended Learning for editorial review and approval by the Dean of Graduate & Extended Learning. The recommended initial submission date for review is two weeks before commencement. Ordinarily, a seminar paper or project report does not have to be approved by the Dean of Graduate & Extended Learning. However, if the seminar paper or project report is to be archived in Murphy Library, the student must follow the same rules as they apply to the dissertation/thesis requiring approval from the Dean of Graduate & Extended Learning. For further research/dissertation/thesis guidelines (<https://www.uwlax.edu/gel/graduate-education/thesis-and-dissertation/>), see Graduate & Extended Learning.
6. File a completed "Intent to Graduate" form online via the WINGS Student Center immediately following registration for the final semester or summer term in residence. December graduates and winter intersession should file by May 1. May and summer graduates should file by December 1.
7. Pay the graduation fee and remove all other indebtedness to the university. Payment of graduation fees does not imply readiness for graduation and does not take the place of applying for graduation.
8. Complete all requirements within 30 days after the official ending date of a term in order for a degree to be awarded for that term. (See #5 above for separate deadline for written capstone experience.)