

SPECIALIST IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP



Why a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership?

As part of BGSU's College of Education and Human Development – ranked as one of the nation's best for teacher education – the goal of the Educational Leadership program is to develop educational leaders who can lead, regardless of their role, so that students learn. Whether as a teacher or as an administrator, the Educational Leadership program will provide you the tools “to lead where you are.”

Why an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership at BGSU?

The Specialist in Educational Leadership degree (Ed.S.) is designed for educators who already have a master's and aspire to a leadership position at the building or district level. This 30-semester-hour program leads to both a master's degree, as well as principal and specialist licensure.

Our cohorts are offered in one of two predetermined formats:

- 1. Online** - All class sessions are presented online.
- 2. Blended** - Classes meet face-to-face three times per semester with the remaining 12 classes conducted online.

The Educational Leadership program will also work with individual school districts, educational service centers, and CTC programs to customize a cohort that meets the needs of faculty. Most students complete the program in two years, but the sequence can be accelerated.

Learning outcomes

Students enrolled in the Educational Leadership program will gain insight into the challenges of PK-12 education and learn the vital leadership skills needed to effectively meet these challenges in a variety of educational settings. Students who complete the Ed.S. coursework will be well-prepared to successfully complete the Ed.S. comprehensive examination and the O.A.E. administrator licensure examination and to apply for the Initial Administrator license through the Ohio Department of Education.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit bgsu.edu/edspecialist
Contact Program Coordinator Dr. Paul Johnson,
College of Education and Human Development
pjohnso@bgsu.edu | 419-372-7369

Program strength and uniqueness

- A focus on leadership skills applicable across educational settings
- An emphasis on improving classroom instruction and student learning
- A rich history of quality leadership training found only at BGSU
- Rigorous content aligned with national and state licensure standards
- Dedicated and knowledgeable faculty with PK-12 leadership experience at the building, central office, superintendent and board of education levels
- The Ed.S. degree is a strategic way to move to “Master's Plus 30” on the salary schedule

Professional opportunities

Graduates of this program are eligible for Ohio Administration Licensure in a number of specialty areas depending on the coursework taken. These options include building/district-level administration, curriculum and instruction, professional development, education staff personnel administration, educational research, pupil services administration and school-community relations.



“The BGSU Educational Leadership specialist program was by far the most useful, applicable and impactful professional development I have had in my career as an educator. While the instructors are respectful of the hectic schedules educators maintain, the work is meaningful and relevant. I especially appreciated the valuable experience the instructors brought to the classes as practicing educators who had marked successes in their positions.”

- Carrie Sanchez, Principal
Port Clinton City Schools

Admission requirements

Applicants must have at least one year of teaching experience in a school setting. Prospective students without any teaching experience may be considered; however, a rationale will need to be provided as to why the application should be considered, and the applicant will be interviewed by the faculty committee.

Applicants are required to submit scanned copies of official or unofficial transcripts from all institutions attended. Upon admission, final official or notarized copies of transcripts from all institutions where degrees were earned and diplomas from international institutions must be submitted. Applicants are also required to submit official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within the past five years, with a target composite score of 280+ on the verbal/quantitative portions. The GRE is waived if the undergraduate GPA is 2.75 or higher and the graduate GPA is 3.00 or higher.

All applicants must also submit the following:

- A letter of application detailing why you have chosen this program at BGSU; your professional goals, academic strengths, and personal characteristics that will lead to your success as a school administrator; the ways in which you will be an asset to our program; and why you should be admitted to this program.
- A copy of your current resume/curriculum vita including evidence of successful teaching experience; leadership ability or capacity; professional development activities; professional memberships, committees, publications, and honors.
- Three reference forms/letters: one from an individual familiar with your academic ability and two from administrators or supervisors familiar with your professional performance. One of the latter must be from a current supervisor.
- For those seeking Ohio administrative licensure in conjunction with the Ed.S., a completed Application for Administrative Licensure Form is also required.

Cost of tuition

Please refer to www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar for the most recent information on tuition and fees.

Financial assistance

Domestic students enrolled in four or more credit hours are eligible to apply for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to calculate student contribution and financial need. You may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Curriculum

Students are required to complete at least 30 semester hours of graduate work beyond the master's degree, including all specific requirements for the degree and any relevant certification. Degree requirements depend on individual interests and prior coursework. Specific requirements include courses in education administration and related fields, such as foundations, curriculum, and research.

Required Courses

- EDAS 6210 Introduction to Organizational Leadership and Change
- EDAS 6230 Law, Ethics and Negotiations
- EDAS 6240 Fiscal Management and Resource Allocation
- EDAS 6250 School Culture, Instructional Program & Professional Staff Development
- EDAS 6260 Leadership and Law in Special Education
- EDAS 6300 Internship Practicum/ Building
- EDAS 7210 Information Management, Evaluation & Student Personnel Services
- EDAS 7220 Diversity of School Communities and Political Dynamics
- EDAS 7300 Internship Practicum/ District
- EDAS Elective

How to apply

Visit the BGSU Graduate College website at www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions. Admission is rolling, but cohorts typically form in the fall.