

# EDUCATION SPECIALIST IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

## Available on the Jackson, Georgia and Hendersonville Campuses

The purpose of the Education Specialist in Educational Leadership is to prepare leaders who will make a difference as moral agents and sensitive social advocates for the children and the communities they serve; who will focus on the central issues of learning and teaching and school improvement; who will make strong connections as they reflect Christian values with others as individuals and as members of the educational community.

## Objectives of the Program

Students in the Ed.S. in Educational Leadership Program will:

1. Demonstrate within their disciplines advanced knowledge and skills.
2. Display competency in the critical evaluation of issues, trends and methodologies.
3. Demonstrate the ability to apply research that extends the body of knowledge in the field.
4. Enhance their ethical decision-making ability through an academic environment integrated with the Christian faith.
5. Build intellectual and moral knowledge to cope with a pluralistic world in order to better serve communities and their schools.

The objectives are met within the context of a set of standards developed by the Educational Leadership Constituent Council of the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

## Program Description

The Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in Educational Leadership is offered along two concentrations: (1) Instructional Leadership (IL), a licensure track designed to prepare school principals and supervisors of instruction; and (2) Teacher Leadership, a non-licensure track designed for teacher leaders who desire knowledge of concepts and strategies for school and classroom leadership. The degree is based on Union's conceptual framework of A Teacher-Student Dynamic of Sensitivity, Reflection and Faith. Union University desires to prepare school leaders who are grounded in and committed to excellence in teaching and learning with values based on our Judeo-Christian heritage.

**The Cohort Approach** The program accepts students in groups to pursue each course together in a cohort. Lifelong friendships are developed through this format, and learning takes place in a spirit of unity, rigor, and cooperation.

**Program Delivery and Calendar** Students will be accepted into cohorts who will complete the program utilizing an innovative delivery system designed to meet the needs of educators. Ed.S. students will begin the

program with a course offered on Saturdays in February and March. The Summer term involves an intensive two months. Time is provided during the summer for library research, group projects, independent reading, and Practicum hours. In the fall, instruction occurs on Saturdays for a course in September and October, followed by other courses offered on Saturdays in November-December. Saturdays are utilized for courses offered January through May. The guiding principle is that students will complete one course before moving to another.

Instructional Leadership students begin the Practicum in their first semester. The Practicum runs through June of the second summer of the program. Students and faculty maintain online contact during the intervening weeks and months in support of course assignments. Saturdays are also utilized for courses offered January through June.

EDU 737, 738, 739—Leadership Practicum  
or EDU 734—Leadership Internship  
EDU 786—Seminar: Multicultural and Diversity  
Issues in Education  
Total: 39 hours  
Exit Assessment:  
Completion of Practicum or Internship—end of June  
Completion of SLLA Exam—middle of June  
Leadership Growth Paper—end of June  
Graduation—rst weekend in August

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Prerequisites Human Growth and Development,  
Instructional Technology, Educational Assessment  
Transfer Credit by Petition: Maximum of 9 Semesters  
Hours May Be Applied.  
EDU 610—History and Philosophy of Education  
EDU 613—Brain-Based Learning  
EDR 700—Research Issues in Educational Leadership

EDU 702—Engaged Learning  
EDU 703—Supervision  
EDU 706—Organizational Decision Making  
EDU 707—Legal Issues in School Governance  
EDU 708—Curriculum and School Improvement  
EDU 714—Leadership Issues I—Theories and  
Strategies  
EDU 715—Leadership Issues II—Planning and  
Finance  
EDU 723—Faith and Ethics in Educational  
Leadership  
EDU 732—Leadership Growth Paper  
EDU 786—Seminar: Multicultural and Diversity  
Issues in Education  
Total: 39 hours  
Exit Assessment:  
Presentation of Leadership Growth Paper—end of June

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**Admi e eion P5bID 4 e e e e in Ed ca hion P5bID 4 e e 1 e i School Go e nance**

## Academic Re i emen e fo P og e e e ion, P oba ion, and S e en e ion

Students in the Education Specialist Program must maintain an overall Grade Point Average of at least 3.0 in the GPA. The student may apply for readmission to the Ed.S. Program to remain in Good Academic Standing. Ed.S. Program after the cumulative program GPA has been

After completion of nine graduate hours in the program, raised to 3.0 or higher. An Ed.S. student whose cumulative program GPA is below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. A student placed on academic probation has one semester to increase his/her program GPA to 3.0 or higher.

If the student fails to attain the required minimum 3.0 GPA during the probationary semester, the student will be suspended from the Ed.S. Program. While suspended from the program, the student may repeat courses in which a

grade of B, C, or F has been earned in an effort to improve the program, the student may repeat courses in which a grade of B, C, or F has been earned in an effort to improve the program, the student may repeat courses in which a

A student suspended from a graduate program is not eligible for Veterans Administration Benefits.

## Graduation Re i emen e

All students completing the Education Specialist in Educational Leadership must meet the following criteria for graduation.

1. Successful completion of the required 39 semester hours of coursework with a minimum 3.0 GPA in the program.
  2. Successful presentation of the Leadership Growth Paper.
- In addition to the above criteria, students completing the Instructional Leadership licensure track must:
3. Successfully complete the required Practicum or Internship.
  4. The candidate for the Ed.S. degree (Instructional Leadership track) MUST PASS the Praxis II SLLA test in order to complete the Ed.S./

Instructional Leadership program. The test will be taken in the second year of the program; results should be received mid-July so that the candidate will know if he/she will complete the Instructional Leadership license. If the test is not passed, the candidate can receive the Ed.S. in Teacher Leadership (non-licensure).

Students who have completed the Union Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) and desire to return to complete the Ed.D., after having met doctoral admission standards, must complete a set of two "bridge" doctoral seminar courses before enrolling in the doctoral 21 hours of doctoral research courses. The courses are EDR 707, Leadership Research Seminar, which includes the Qualifying Paper, and EDU 711, Seminar in Politics, Policy, and Instruction. See the Ed.D. program section for admission criteria and course descriptions.

## Financial Information

The following payment plans are available for students in the Ed.S. program.

1. Full payment may be made for the program of 30 semester hours. Tuition must be paid on an individual basis for courses required for completion of the program that are in addition to the required 30 semester hours.
2. Payment may be made by the semester with at least 50% due before classes begin and the balance due one month later.
3. Monthly payments may be made using the FACTS Plan, an automatic debit from your account.

Tuition and Fees. Tuition is \$450 per semester hour effective for cohorts beginning in February 2013. Tuition will be \$465 for cohorts beginning February 2014.

IL Portfolio Fee (when applicable):.....	\$150
Application Fee:.....	\$.25
EDU 737, 738, 739—Practicum Fee (IL):.....	\$200
Graduation Fee:.....	\$25

Financial Aid. The Federal Stafford Loan (subsidized)

