



SHENANDOAH  
UNIVERSITY

Division of Education & Leadership



# Education & Leadership 2024 Graduate Programs



**Shenandoah University's Division of Education & Leadership** offers a variety of professional programs for educators and community-focused leaders. The challenges of recent years truly have taught us the importance of strong leadership and compassionate mentorship. Whether you are planning a career in education or seeking to develop leadership skills for any professional setting, our faculty are ready to work with you.

We offer a wide range of programs, including Pre K-12 teacher preparation, educational administration, and organizational leadership. All share a commitment to intellectual challenge, creativity, and empathy as you work closely with a passionate and dedicated faculty. You will experience student-centered instruction and a personalized approach to advising. We also offer tuition discounts to meet the needs of working professionals.

At Shenandoah, our success is measured by your success. We invite you to bring your vision, talent and desire to learn to our community, where lives are transformed and lifelong learning partnerships are formed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeff W. Coker".

Jeff W. Coker, Ph.D.  
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences and Division of  
Education & Leadership



# Advancing Your Career

Our education and leadership graduate programs are:

- **flexible** and designed for busy, working adults
- taught by **experienced** educators
- **affordable**

We believe in supporting higher education for the advancement of society — that's why we offer tuition discounts to reduce tuition costs.

## EDUCATION STUDIES

### TEACHER EDUCATION

- Master of Science in Education with specialization options in:
  - Individualized Focus
  - Special Education
- Master of Science in Literacy Education

### Professional Studies Certificates

- Initial Teacher Licensure
  - Elementary Education
  - Middle School Education
  - Secondary Education
  - Health and Physical Education
- Gifted Education Add-on Endorsement
- Reading Licensure K-12
- Special Education K-12
- Special Education Add-on Endorsements for K-6, 6-8 or 6-12

## LEADERSHIP STUDIES

### EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Doctor of Education: Educational Leadership
- Master of Science in Education: Education Administration
- Professional Studies Certificate for Licensure in Administration and Supervision

### ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Doctor of Professional Studies: Organizational Leadership
- Master of Science: Organizational Leadership

# Education Studies Programs

We offer master's and certificate programs that have been reviewed and approved by the Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Education. Programs are inquiry-driven, problem-oriented and focused on public education foundations through course requirements, internships and field research.



## SPECIAL EDUCATION

### **Master of Science in Education: Special Education**

This program prepares pre-service, alternatively licensed, or already certified teachers to meet eligibility requirements for licensure and endorsement in Special Education-General Education Curriculum, K-12.

### **Professional Studies Certificate in Special Education Licensure K-12**

The PSC in Special Education K-12 serves those who desire Virginia Special Education Teacher Licensure and it is ideally suited for those who hold a master's degree in education and want to add the Special Education K-12 endorsement.

### **Professional Studies Certificate in Special Education K-6, 6-8, or 6-12**

The PSC in Special Education Add-on Endorsements in K-6, 6-8, or 6-12 serve licensed teachers who want to add special education licensure to their current teaching endorsement in elementary, middle, or secondary education in Virginia.

## LITERACY EDUCATION

### **Master of Science in Literacy Education**

The Master of Science in Literacy Education is a teacher-oriented, 30-credit-hour program that addresses the complex field of literacy by offering three core literacy courses for all participants and a choice of concentrations in writing, reading, early literacy, and individual design, with each course of study designed to explore literacy areas in depth.

### **Professional Studies Certificate for Reading Licensure**

The PSC for Reading Licensure is a 21-credit program that serves teachers who already hold a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and who want to obtain Virginia licensure as a reading specialist without seeking Shenandoah's Master of Science in Literacy Education with a reading concentration. Each course in the program highlights evidence-based practices in reading and writing instruction.

## INDIVIDUALIZED FOCUS

### Master of Science in Education: Individualized Focus

This 30-credit program prepares you to earn an advanced degree with an emphasis on your own career or educational goals. Other Division of Education & Leadership certificate credits may be applied toward this master's degree.

## TEACHER EDUCATION

We prepare teachers to meet the changing needs of classrooms within K–12 school systems.

### Professional Studies Certificate for Initial Teacher Licensure

This 24-36-credit program allows individuals with an undergraduate degree to gain initial teacher licensure. Secondary school licensure is offered in biology, business, chemistry, history/social studies, English and mathematics. K–12 licensure is offered in health/physical education and special education. Elementary school licensure is offered in K–6, and middle school licensure is offered in grades 6–8.

### Professional Studies Certificate in Gifted Education

This certificate prepares teachers to implement best practices in gifted and talented instruction through collaboration, reflection, critical thinking, coaching, data analysis and authentic assessments. It is designed to meet state endorsement add-on requirements in Gifted and Talented. The courses use research-based best practices to inform teachers' decisions, provide guidance in addressing problems they will encounter in educational roles, and present opportunities to effect change in the environment in which they work.





# Leadership Studies Programs

Our graduate programs hone your skills as principled and professional leaders who make a difference in the lives of others.



## EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Our graduate programs in educational leadership are multidisciplinary and focus on ethical leadership. Graduates hold leadership positions in schools, colleges and universities, and community-based organizations. The programs emphasize the application of theory to real-world concerns at schools and related institutions of public trust.

### Doctor of Education (Ed.D.): Educational Leadership

This 60-credit program is designed for current and aspiring leaders with career goals related to PreK-12 and higher education. The program offers an optional concentration for PreK-12 educators seeking Virginia licensure in administration and supervision. The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership program is a member of the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED). We also offer a 36-credit Education Specialist in Educational Leadership (Ed.S.) degree option for those students who complete the required 33 credits of coursework in the Ed.D. program but opt to complete a capstone rather than a dissertation.

### Master of Science in Education: Education Administration

This 30-credit online program is designed for professionals in Virginia's public and private schools and leads to licensure in administration and supervision. A non-licensure track is also available.

### Professional Studies Certificate for Licensure in Administration and Supervision

This 21-credit online certification program leads to licensure in administration and supervision for professionals in Virginia public schools who already hold a master's degree.

## ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Our multidisciplinary leadership studies programs prepare individuals for principled, ethical leadership in nonprofit and public sector organizations. Programs are designed for those in community and governmental organizations; nonprofit, public sector or service careers; higher education, and other institutions of public trust.

### Doctor of Professional Studies (D.Prof.): Organizational Leadership

This 60-credit low-residency program is designed for individuals with substantive experience in their fields who seek to leverage those experiences to prepare for advanced leadership roles.

### Master of Science: Organizational Leadership

This 33-credit, synchronous online program is designed for individuals interested in creative, inspirational and ethical leadership in nonprofit, higher education, or governmental organizations.



## Accreditation

Our teacher education programs – designed to prepare teachers who are competent, caring and qualified – are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) for a period of seven years, from 2019-2026. Our administration and supervision, and reading licensure programs – designed to prepare leaders who are highly competent, strategic and caring – are accredited by CAEP through 2026. **All Shenandoah University licensure programs are Virginia Board of Education Approved Programs.**

## Professional Licensure Alternatives

Our Office of Extended and Distance Education (XDE)\* provides professional and licensure courses approved by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) for teacher licensure and recertification. For information specific to XDE, go to: [su.edu/xde](http://su.edu/xde). Courses offered include:

- VESi: self-paced, online teacher recertification courses
- Career Switcher Program: alternative path to teacher licensure

*\*XDE operates separately from the Office of Graduate Admissions*

*“The impact SU had on shaping me, preparing me, and nurturing me into a school leader has not only benefited me as a professional but also my entire school community. Integrity, grit, hard work, and thoughtful and purposeful decision-making are a few of the lessons I learned as a graduate student at Shenandoah University.”*

**– Renee Dawson ’10, ’23**

M.S. in Education Administration

Ed.S. in Educational Leadership

**Assistant Director**

CTE, Computer Science, and Community Connections

Loudoun County Public School



*"I initially chose Shenandoah because it offered a program of study that allowed me to fit my classes into my busy schedule as a full-time employee and a mom. The program's benefits far outweigh convenience, though. The outstanding professors in my program teach critical thinking and discovery skills that have allowed me to develop programs and solutions to challenges I encounter both in my day-to-day work and in serving my local community."*



*— Kerry Carmichael '23*

*Doctor of Professional Studies:  
Organizational Leadership student*

*Senior Technical Writer at  
Red Hat (a subsidiary of IBM) in Raleigh, North Carolina*

## Shenandoah Facts

- Established 1875
- Main Campus located in Winchester, Virginia, in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley
- Scholar Plaza, Loudoun, in Leesburg, Virginia, is conveniently located for those in the D.C. metro region.
- The annual **Shenandoah University Children's Literature Conference** has attracted top children's authors and illustrators (including multiple Newbery and Caldecott winners) for more than 30 summers. Participation can also lead to continuing education credit.

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[su.edu/education](https://su.edu/education) | [su.edu/admit](https://su.edu/admit)



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