

Education Specialist (EdS) in Educational Leadership



SHENANDOAH[®]
UNIVERSITY
Division of Education & Leadership

A Part-time, Two-Year Advanced Study Program (36 credit hours)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in Educational Leadership program provides advanced preparation for learners with career goals related to PreK-12 and higher education who have completed a master's degree but do not seek a doctoral degree. The program is student-centered, inquiry-driven and problem-oriented with an emphasis on the application of theory to real world problems. Learners think deeply, examine critically and understand theoretically the challenges facing schools, higher education, and related organizations. The 36-credit program is organized around interdisciplinary leadership content and research coursework that is complemented by a 3-credit capstone project.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- Master's degree with a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate Application with a \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Unofficial transcripts for initial admission from all institutions of higher education previously attended.
- Three letters of recommendation: one from an immediate supervisor, one academic reference, and at least one professional with knowledge of the candidate's ability in the chosen concentration
- One (1) page resume
- Essay addressing the applicant's motivation and goals while in the EdS program (no more than 3 double-spaced pages)
- Interview with the EdS Program Coordinator (applicant should contact and schedule)
- Language proficiency requirements must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details:
<https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>

TRANSFER CREDITS

- With approval from the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and the faculty of the Division of Education & Leadership, students may substitute up to 9 approved graduate credits from a regionally accredited institution if these courses were not counted toward a previously earned degree. However, additional courses may be required to create a viable degree program. Applicants needing foundational coursework will be advised of the necessity before they will be permitted to take advanced level coursework.
- Only grades of "A" or "B" are transferable

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

Start Term

Fall (August)

Admission Deadline

Priority Deadline: April 15

Format/Location

Low Residency: Combination of three Saturday in-person classes per semester (Winchester or Loudoun campuses), asynchronous classes, and weekday Zoom classes in the evening

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to www.su.edu/sehdapp

Foreign Transcripts

International transcript evaluation by an accredited agency is an admission requirement. Approved services are listed at www.naces.org and <http://aice-eval.org/>.

Please note: visa-seeking F-1 international students cannot receive visa documentation for this program due to its part-time nature.

Contact Us

Dr. Catherine Dunn Shiffman
Professor of Leadership Studies
EdD & EdS Program Coordinator
cshiffma@su.edu

Office of Graduate Admissions
SUGradAdmissions@su.edu
call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-546-6029

Office of Financial Aid
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>
finaid@su.edu | call: 540-665-4538



Dr. Catherine Dunn Shiffman
EdS Program Coordinator

CAMPUS LOCATIONS



Winchester Main Campus
1460 University Drive
Winchester, VA 22601



James L. Bowman Building
20 South Cameron Street
Winchester, Virginia 22601



SU Loudoun
44160 Scholar Plaza Suite 100
Leesburg, Virginia 20176

CURRICULUM

The degree requirement is a minimum of 36 semester hours with a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

Program Core		
LST 710	Leadership: Theory & Application	3
LST 720	Societal Factors: Influences on Policy, Programs, and Practice	3
LST 735	Organizational Theory & Behavior	3
LST 740	Governance & Public Policy	3
LST 626	Change in Public Sector/Nonprofit Organizations	3
Total		15
Research Core		
RST 765	Foundations of Doctoral Research	3
RST 775	Quantitative Methods for Doctoral Research	3
RST 784	Qualitative Methods for Doctoral Research	3
Total		9
Research Electives		
Select graduate level research course credits appropriate for advance preparation in educational leadership.		
Total		6
Leadership Elective		
Select graduate level leadership or education course credits appropriate for advanced preparation in educational leadership.		
Total		3
Capstone (choose one)		
LST 693	Directed Study in Organizational Leadership (3)	
RST 672	Outcomes Assessment and Statistical Applications in Organizations (3)	
RST 678	Practitioner Research 1 (3)	
Total		3
Program Total		36

ABOUT THE DIVISION OF EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP

Shenandoah University's Division of Education & Leadership (DOEL) prepares practitioner-leaders by offering programs of study that conform to the following principles: practicing in a spirit of collaboration; thoughtfully examining the foundations, current contexts, and future possibilities of the fields of study; encouraging proactive, problem-centered philosophies of educational and professional practice; producing graduates who will be knowledge-driven, competent decision-makers whose thinking is informed by reflective practice; and preparing caring, capable, and reflective teachers, administrators, human services, and public sector practitioners.

As part of efforts to make education more accessible for educators and leaders who serve our communities, all DOEL graduate programs are offered at a [reduced tuition rate](#).