

You're a leader in the classroom...

Now take your leadership to the next level with an Ed.S. degree in Educational Leadership from Mercer University.

GEORGIA SCHOOL OFFICIALS EXPECT A SIGNIFICANT SHORTAGE OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

Now, Mercer University's Tift College of Education offers a new graduate program to address this pending shortage: the Add-on initial certification in Educational Leadership and Ed.S. degree in Educational Leadership.

Designed to assist educators in the development of leadership knowledge and skills, the program is for individuals who wish to prepare themselves for administrative or supervisory positions of instructional leadership. The program fulfills the requirements for the initial certification (L-5; NL-5) and performance-based certification at the six year level (PL-6) by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

Design of the Program

Mercer's Educational Leadership Program has been designed to provide leadership candidates with a solid blend of educational theory and practice. Recognizing the importance of having the program relevant to both the opportunities and challenges facing today's schools, Mercer faculty sought input from many sources when developing the program, including local school systems, other prominent leadership programs, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and the most current national standards of NCATE — the Education Leadership Constituent Consortium (ELCC).

Program Goals

- To prepare educational leaders for Georgia's schools.
- To meet the growing demand for highly-qualified school leaders in Georgia.
- To develop partnerships with public schools and agencies.

Course of Study

Mercer's Educational Leadership Program curriculum encompasses 51 areas of leadership in which educational leaders must be knowledgeable. From conflict resolution to the school budget process to personnel evaluation, candidates will gain the knowledge needed to provide the leadership required to attain excellence throughout a school.

Course Curriculum

Admission to Add-on Initial Certification Program

Fall, 1st Year

EDEL 605 — Leadership in Curriculum
EDEL 615 — Leadership in Today's Schools

Spring, 1st Year

EDEL 625 — Managing the School Environment
EDEL 635 — Assessment and Evaluation

Summer, 1st Year

EDEL 655 — School Law
EDEL 665 — Leadership in Instructional Supervision
EDEL 645-A — Internship I

**Submit materials for initial certification (L-5 prior to 9/30/09; NL-5 after 9/30/09)*

Admission to Ed.S. Candidacy

Building-Level Track

Fall, 2nd Year

EDEL 703 — The Principalship
EDEL 645B — Internship II (Building Level)



TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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For more information, call (678) 547-6563
or visit our Website at
www.mercer.edu/education.

Admission Requirements

Admission to Ed.S. Candidacy (continued)

Building-Level Track

Spring, 2nd Year

EDEL 697 — School, Community & Society
EDEL 645B — Internship II (Building Level)

OR

System-Level Track

Fall, 2nd Year

EDEL 704 — The Superintendency
EDEL 645B — Internship II (System Level)

Spring, 2nd Year

EDEL 832 — School Finance and Budgeting
EDEL 645B — Internship II (System Level)

The Mercer Difference

The Mercer Educational Leadership program offers four unique aspects to support the leadership candidate: the Leadership Academy, the Leadership Portfolio, the Online Leadership Network and Mentoring/Internship Experiences.

The Leadership Academy —

In addition to coursework, Saturday sessions, offered once a semester, will feature education experts who will expose leadership candidates to diverse ideas and methods on topics that complement and enhance the learning experience.

The Leadership Portfolio —

Each candidate in the program will maintain an electronic leadership portfolio that will showcase the work and experience of the student throughout the program and will provide valuable documentation of the learning experience after completing the program.

The Online Leadership Network —

Each candidate will be able to communicate via a personal computer and modem with other members of the cohort group and Mercer's Educational Leadership faculty. The bulletin board network will provide a forum where online discussions can take place on various topics and issues in educational leadership.

Mentoring/Internship Experiences —

Each candidate will engage in internship experiences each semester of the program, guided and supported by assigned mentors in the field. Additionally, candidates will participate in sustained internship experiences each summer of the two-year program.

Add-on Initial Certification:

Tier 1: (1st 21 hours; the equivalent of current L-5 or NL-5 certification program)

1. Hold a master's degree from an accredited institution and possess or be eligible for a master's level certificate in a teaching field.
2. Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 for all graduate coursework attempted.
3. Have completed three years of successful teaching experience.
4. Submit a target score of 800 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the GRE; OR a target raw score of 41 on the Miller's Analogies Test (before October 2004); OR a target scaled score of 397 on the Miller's Analogies Test (after October 2004).
5. Two official copies of transcripts from all colleges/universities previously attended.
6. A \$25 application fee
7. Must present a letter of recommendation from the school system in which the candidate is employed.

Ed.S. Candidacy:

- ▶ After you complete the Add-on Certification, you will only need to take an additional three courses once admitted into the program.
- ▶ Criteria for admission include:
 1. Currently employed in a school leadership position
 2. Submit a passing score on the GACE assessment.
 3. A copy of current L-5 (or in the future, NL-5) certification from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.
 4. Submit a target score of 900 on the verbal and quantitative sections and a target score of 4.0 on the analytical/writing section of the GRE.
 5. A current vita or résumé
 6. Two official copies of all transcripts of academic work showing a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5.
 7. Three official letters of recommendation; one of these must be from a school system supervisor, documenting that you do have a job in school leadership.
 8. A \$30 application fee (waived for current Mercer students).
 9. Participation in a required interview with program faculty.
 10. A signed and dated writing sample and narrative of career and academic goals to be completed at the interview.

Application Information

An application packet is available by calling the Educational Leadership Program at Mercer at (678) 547-6563 or by visiting Mercer's website at www.mercer.edu/education.