

Ed.D. in Educational Leadership Program

Frequently Asked Questions-FAQs

- ***When do new cohorts begin?***
 - New cohorts begin in the fall semester of every year.

- ***Does the Ed.D. program accept transfer credit?***
 - Credits are not transferable.

- ***Is the program “standards-based”?***
 - Yes, the program is aligned to state standards, Illinois Professional School Leader Standards (IPSLs) and the Educational Leadership Constituent Council Standards (ELCC).

- ***Is the program approved?***
 - Yes, it was approved by:
 - Illinois Board of Higher Learning in June 2004,
 - Higher learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools in April 2005, and
 - Illinois State Board of Education-Superintendent Endorsement in February 2007.

- ***How long does it take to complete the degree?***
 - The degree will take a minimum of four (4) years.
 - Year 1-
 - 2 courses in fall, spring and summer

- Year 2
 - 2 courses in fall, spring and summer
 - Year 3-
 - fall -2 courses, qualifying examination, doctoral candidacy
 - Spring/summer doctoral dissertation (2 courses of superintendent internship for eligible candidates)
 - Year 4- Doctoral Dissertation
- ***How many credit hours to complete the program?***
 - Core coursework consists of 42 credit hours.
 - Dissertation consists of a minimum of 12 credit hours.
 - The superintendent endorsement requires an additional 6 credit hours.
 - ***Is there a policy regarding GPA?***
 - Yes.
 - Students must maintain a GPA of 3.5 or better throughout the program.
 - Students are not allowed to enter candidacy with a grade below B on their record.
 - Students receiving a grade lower than B must retake the class before proceeding to candidacy.
 - Students earning two grades below a B cannot continue to register for classes. Students must retake the class and earn a grade of B or better before continuing in the program.
 - Students are allowed to retake classes in which they earned less than a B only once.