Educational Leadership (Principalship), MEd

ASU’s Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College is one of the top-ranked graduate colleges of education in the U.S. Our graduate programs develop purposeful innovators who bring people and ideas together to improve the lives of learners, the impact of educators and the performance of education systems.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MEd Educational Leadership (Principalship)

The MEd program in educational leadership with a concentration in principal preparation is designed for individuals who believe in the power of education to transform children's lives and who aspire to school leadership positions as administrators or in other leadership roles in K-12 settings. This rigorous, standards-based leadership preparation program provides students with the knowledge and expertise to become transformative administrators or teacher leaders with a deep and unwavering commitment to providing excellent and equitable educational opportunities for all students.

This program equips students with the skills to facilitate school-level and systemic change; create and sustain a culture of innovation and collaboration; successfully lead curriculum development; interpret and use data to support student success; provide effective feedback, support and evaluation for teachers; build a community network of support for students and schools; and ensure equitable and excellent educational opportunities and support for all students.

The master's degree program in educational leadership is designed to prepare teachers to meet Arizona requirements for principal certification. Students seeking certification in a state other than Arizona should contact their state department of education to determine the principal certification requirements prior to applying.

At a Glance
Degree Requirements

36 credit hours including an applied project (EDA 593)

Required Core (27 credit hours)
EDA 501 Competency/Performance in Educational Administration (3)
EDA 505 American Education System (3)
EDA 511 School Law (3)
EDA 514 Leadership in Curriculum and Assessment (3)
EDA 526 Instructional Supervision (3)
EDA 548 School, Family and Community Connections (3)
EDA 572 School Finance and Human Resources (3)
EDA 578 Critical Issues in Educational Leadership (3)
EDA 634 Instructional Leadership (3)

Other Requirement (6 credit hours)
EDA 584 Internship (3)
EDA 684 Internship (3)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
EDA 593 Applied Project (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
All students participate in a two-semester, school-based internship that provides the opportunity to apply new learning and research in a K-12 setting. Students must be employed in a school-based position or have access to an ASU- and district-approved school placement that will serve as the laboratory of practice for applying the concepts, principles and leadership approaches learned through the coursework.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor’s or master’s degree from a regionally accredited institution and have at least two years of pre-K through grade 12 teaching experience as a teacher of record.
Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. three letters of recommendation
4. personal statement
5. resume
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

The letters of recommendation should be from individuals who can speak to the applicant's potential for success in a graduate program, and one of the letters must be from a current immediate supervisor who is a principal, assistant principal or the equivalent.

The personal statement should describe the applicant's interests and reason for seeking this degree.

GRE scores are not required for admission.

Attend Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Global Opportunities

PLuS Alliance
Global Experience
Global Degree

Career Opportunities

Contact Information