

Master of Education in Rural and Urban School Leadership

Program Overview:

UALR's Master of Education in Rural and Urban School Leadership program prepares candidates for leading and managing P-12 schools effectively. The Program leads to P-12 building level principalship licensure. This fully online Program is 30 credit hours, and is structured as 8 week terms. The 8 week accelerated course delivery structure enables students to be able to graduate in 12 months. With the rural and urban school leadership focus, our graduates become equipped with appropriate skills for leading both levels of schools.

In short, our innovative Master of Education in Rural and Urban School Leadership Program is:

- **Purposeful:** Leads to P-12 principalship licensure
- **Relevant:** Both rural and urban focus
- **Online:** 100% online delivery
- **Accelerated:** Can be completed in 12 months
- **Comprehensive:** 8-week classes
- **Convenient:** Year round admission
- **Affordable:** \$383 per credit.

Required Courses: 30 credit hours

Co-requisite: Exceptional Child course, SPED 4301 or equivalent course

EDAS 7301 Instructional Leadership & Curriculum Assessment for School Improvement

EDAS 7302 School Finance & Human Resource Development

EDAS 7303 Educational Law & Ethics

EDAS 7304 Instructional Supervision & Evaluation for Academic Excellence

EDAS 7310 Data-based Decision Making & School Improvement

EDAS 7312 Introduction to Comparative Leadership in Rural & Urban Schools

EDAS 7315 Leadership for Social Justice in Rural & Urban Schools

EDAS 7320 Leadership Coaching

EDAS 7380 Administrative Internship

EDAS 8313 Culturally Responsive School & Community Relations

Admission Requirements:

All applicants must meet the following requirements:

- A valid teaching license. (Arkansas or other state) or, if a candidate does not have a valid teaching license, he/she will provide written documentation by signing a statement that acknowledges his/her understanding that he/she is ineligible for state licensure for school administration without a valid teaching license.

- At least two years of professional experience in K-12 settings. (Please note: Four years of experience is required to be eligible for administrative licensure. Candidates may accrue this experience while in the program.)

Regular Admission (Additional Requirements)

- Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 (4.0 scale), or
- Grade point average of at least 3.0 for the last 60 hours of undergraduate courses, or
- Master's degree from a regionally accredited institution with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.

Conditional Admission (For applicants who meet the basic admission requirements but not the regular admission requirements)

In order to be eligible for conditional admission, an applicant must meet the following requirement:

- Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution with a cumulative undergraduate GPA of no lower than 2.7 (on a 4.0 scale)

Once admitted on this basis, the student must take the following courses as an indicator of his/her scholarly work during the first 12 hours and maintain a 3.5 average GPA:

EDAS 7304 Instructional Supervision and Evaluation for Academic Excellence
EDAS 7312 Introduction to Comparative Leadership in Rural and Urban Schools
EDAS 7315 Leadership for social Justice in Rural and Urban Schools
EDAS 7320 Leadership Coaching

Program Requirements

Students must develop a Program of Study (POS) with the consultation of their assigned advisor in the first semester of admittance into the program. The approved POS is an abiding document that guides students through the steps they need to take towards the completion of their degrees. The building level licensure program is embedded in the master's program. Failure to progress satisfactorily will result in the removal of the candidate from the program. The POS includes the coursework and internship activities that constitute the standards associated with that body of knowledge and the application of appropriate skills and dispositions to be a successful practicing administrator.

Program of Study

A PDF version of the Program of Study may be downloaded at ualr.edu/online/programs/med-rusl.

Graduation Requirements

- Successful completion of an approved Program of Study
- Successful presentation and approval of the Master of Education Portfolio
- Successful completion of the Chalk and Wire requirements
- Successful completion of take home qualifying exam

Program advisor contact info:

Dr. Ibrahim Duyar

Email: ixduyar@ualr.edu

Phone: 501-569-3550

Direct all of your questions and queries to Dr. Ibrahim Duyar at ixduyar@ualr.edu.

Licensure

Candidates must take the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) for building level administrative licensure. The SLLA must be taken during the last semester of candidate's program of study. Please contact the Director of Teacher Licensure and Placement Ms. Newsam at hxnewsam@ualr.edu for additional information and current programs and requirements regarding licensure. For further information please visit Arkansas Department of Education's website at:

<http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/human-resources-educator-effectiveness-and-licensure/educator-licensure-unit/administrator-licensure>

Program accreditation:

Our program is fully accredited and nationally recognized.

Course Descriptions:

EDAS 7301 Instructional Leadership and Curriculum Assessment for School Improvement

An introduction to the concepts and skills required for principals to be instructional leaders who are involved in the planning, organization, administration, and evaluation of curricular programs that are aligned with instructional and assessment techniques.

EDAS 7302 School Finance and Human Resource Allocation

A study of school finance concepts and the allocation of human resources within the P-12 education system.

EDAS 7303 Education Law and Ethics

A study of legal concepts, issues relating to P-12 school administration.

EDAS 7304 Instructional Supervision and Evaluation for Academic Excellence

This course will provide candidates with the acquisition of knowledge and skills relevant to administrative supervision and evaluation, with opportunities for application to practice in supervising learning services.

EDAS 7310 Data-based Decision Making & School Improvement

This course provides the student with the acquisition of knowledge and application of practice for analyzing, initiating, managing, and evaluating the process related to organizational change for school improvement that is aligned with best practices for data-based decision making.

EDAS 7312 Introduction to Comparative Leadership in Rural and Urban Schools

This course is a comparative exploration of the development of schools and school leadership in rural and urban communities through an examination of similarities and differences among the political, social, and economic factors in U.S. society that shape the context for rural and urban school leaders. Leadership paradigms to address inequities in education in both settings, including social justice are also explored.

EDAS 7315 Leadership for Social Justice in Rural and Urban Schools

This course is an in-depth examination of the role of the principal in rural and urban schools. Candidates will engage in advanced exploration of social justice and school leadership that leads to equitable outcomes in school engagement and achievement as measured by data-based assessment of specific goals designed to achieve social justice in rural and urban schools.

EDAS 7320 Leadership Coaching

This course develops the necessary mindset and introductory skill set for leaders to address adaptive changes required for sustainable change that leads to excellence through the lens of the leader as coach. Through this lens, the leader acts as a thinking partner in order to uphold standards of excellence while holding others capable to rely on their expertise and/or seek knowledge needed to provide rigorous environments. Candidates will be introduced to the coaching mindset, essential coaching skills, and many opportunities for practice and application.

EDAS 7380 Administrative Internship

This course will provide the student with significant opportunity to synthesize and apply knowledge, and develop and practice administrative skills in diverse settings under the direction of a school and/or school district administrative mentor and the university.