Program Description

Educational Administration and Leadership (EAL) offers graduates a program that embraces the broad array of leadership positions in elementary/secondary education. Educational leadership and practice are emphasized in the program. Specialized study provides preparation leading to an Illinois Principal’s License (formerly known as Type 75) for elementary/secondary principals and assistant principals.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit the appropriate supporting application materials as listed below. All supporting materials should be uploaded directly into the online application.

Personal Statement - A statement in which you provide evidence of how your professional experiences and prior academic work have focused your thinking toward the planned program of study. A minimum 500 words is required for the personal statement.

Resume/Curriculum Vitae - This is required of all applicants. For students applying to the Special Education doctoral program, a minimum of two years paid full-time professional experience related to special education or the field of disability is required for consideration for the program.

3 Letters of Reference - From persons who have direct knowledge of your academic and/or professional performance and potential for graduate study.

Transcripts - At the time of application you are only required to upload unofficial copies of your transcripts into the application. The unofficial copy can be a screenshot or scanned copy but should not be a photo of the transcript. Applicants must have earned at least a degree from an accredited college in the United States or a comparable degree from a recognized institution of higher learning abroad. A grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (A=4.0), or comparable GPA for an international applicant, for last two years of undergraduate study is a minimum requirement for admission.

Scholarly Writing Sample - required for applicants to doctoral programs in Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Psychology and Special Education; strongly recommended for doctoral applicants in Educational Policy, Organization and Leadership. The writing sample can be a master’s thesis, research paper, or any other sample that demonstrates the applicant’s ability to analyze and synthesize data.

Required Materials for All International Applicants:

- Proof of funding documentation
- Evidence of English proficiency
- Meet minimum requirements based on country of origin
Students in this track will earn their credential in: Education Policy, Organization & Leadership with a concentration in Educational Administration & Leadership. The research area of study for this track is Educational Administration & Leadership - Principal Preparation.

The typical plan of study includes:

**EOL 540** - Introduction to Educational Leadership

**EOL 541** - Supervision of Learning Environment

**EOL 542** - Leading Learning-Centered Schools

**EOL 543** - School Improvement

**EOL 546** - Public School Finance

**EOL 547** - Education Law

**EOL 548** - Political and Cultural Context of Education

**EOL 560** - Clinical Experience Adminstration

**EPSY 408** - Learning and Human Development with Ed Tech

Notes:

- **Master's Degree Note:** All graduate students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours at the 500 course-level.
- **Joint Degree Opportunity:** Students in this program may choose to earn their degree and simultaneously complete an M.B.A., with 12 fewer required hours than when pursuing both degrees independently. Students must be enrolled in the M.B.A. program for three terms and complete all the requirements of their primary degree. Interested students should see the joint program requirements and contact the M.B.A. program and their major department office for more information.
- **Students should discuss their individual plan of study with their advisor.**