

Master of Arts in Educational Leadership

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Master of Arts in Educational Leadership:

The Master of Arts in Educational Leadership (MA-EDL) is designed to equip educators with the skills for positions of administration in K-12 schools, higher education, and educational organizations. The Principal Administrative Endorsement is an option that many students choose to complete within the required coursework for their MA-EDL.

The Principal endorsement program is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Advising

Students are assigned an advisor when they are admitted to the program. The advisor will contact the student during the first semester of enrollment. The academic advisor will assist students in planning their program of study.

Grading Policy

Students should refer to the campus policy on Grades Acceptable Toward Master's Degrees section of this catalog.

Degree Requirements

The EDL master's degree requires completion of 36 hours which includes coursework in leadership, research, and curriculum.

Research

EDL 505	Introduction To Research	4
or EDL 541	Educational Research Methods	

Educational Leadership

EDL 509	Organizational Dynamics	4
or EDL 565	Addressing Quality Improvement in Educational Settings	

Curriculum

EDL 511	School Improvement	4
or EDL 543	Assessment for Learning	

Electives - EDL 500 - Level Electives **20**

Master's Closure

EDL 531	Capstone I	2
EDL 532	Capstone II	2

Total Hours **36**

Master of Arts in Educational Leadership with Principal Endorsement

Degree Requirements

This EDL master's degree requires completion of 36 hours. There are four core area requirements for the educational leadership graduate degree with the principal endorsement. The principal endorsement is offered as a standalone endorsement for students who already hold a master's degree.

AREA 1 Instructional Leadership

EDL 505	Introduction To Research	4
or EDL 541	Educational Research Methods	
EDL 511	School Improvement	4
EDL 525	Supervision Of Instruction	4

AREA 2 Management of Public Schools

EDL 502	School Finance	4
EDL 509	Organizational Dynamics	4
EDL 519	The Principalship	4

AREA 3 Schools and Public Policy

EDL 503	School Law	4
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AREA 4 Principal Internship

EDL 526	Principal Internship I ¹	2
EDL 527	Principal Internship II ²	2
EDL 531	Capstone I	2
EDL 532	Capstone II	2

Total Hours **36**

¹ Concurrent enrollment in EDL 526 and EDL 531 required

² Concurrent enrollment in EDL 527 and EDL 532 required

Principal Endorsement Requirements

Educators interested in obtaining administrative positions in Illinois public schools must earn the Principal Administrative License. Requirements for this license are established by the ISBE Licensure Board and include a master's degree, two years of documented successful full-time teaching or four years of documented school service personnel experience, admission approval to an accredited Principal Administrative License program, 32 semester hours of required graduate courses, and an extensive internship experience.

As required by ISBE, all candidates in the Principal Endorsement program will complete the following during their first enrolled semester:

1) Turn in a portfolio which contains a letter of recommendation from the applicant's employer (school district); a letter of intent from the district that assures that at the appropriate point in the program the student will receive a placement as an intern in the district and will be permitted to complete his/her internship experiences; a current resume; a copy of the applicant's teaching license or the page from the Illinois Educator's Licensing Information System (ELIS) that shows current licensure; documents illustrating current leadership activities and skills, using data to solve problems, and implementing strategies used to improve student achievement.

2) Complete an interview with EDL faculty. Interview timeslots are open each month and scheduled once the student submits the application portfolio.

Courses required for the principal endorsement can be completed as just an endorsement track or as part of the MA-EDL. All students desiring principal endorsement from the ISBE must apply for admission to the endorsement program in addition to admission to the university.

Internship experiences are required in the program and fulfill ISBE requirements for the principal endorsement.

Master's Closure

All Master of Arts in Educational Leadership degree candidates are required to complete master's closure activities in order to graduate. EDL 531 and EDL 532 will be conducted during the internship experience at the school site. Students will work with a Capstone professor and Internship supervisor on this process.

Licensure

To obtain the licensure for principal, candidates will show proof of passing both ISBE principal exams and the Teacher Evaluator Training. Please refer to the Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS) website for the testing schedule (<http://www.il.nesinc.com>).