

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

The Masters of Arts in Educational Administration degree program prepares aspiring leaders with theory and practice in school administration. The program is designed for students interested in educational leadership whose career goals include a principalship or a superintendency. The Master of Arts in Educational Administration meets the principalship certification requirements in the state of Texas. It is estimated that the average length of time which is required to complete the Master's degree is 18 months to two years. Some of the coursework is offered in a combination of face-to-face and online coursework. This hybrid combination affords students the greatest amount of freedom and flexibility while also including face-to face support, resulting in highly skilled graduates. Principal certification and superintendent certification programs are also offered for professionals requiring certification only.

Program Admission Requirements

In order to receive unconditional admission to the program, students must meet University admission requirements. Recommendations from campus and/or district supervisors will be considered for conditional admission. Students who are seeking principal or superintendent certification and already possess a graduate degree will not be required to submit GRE or MAT scores for program admission. Students in this program must have a valid Texas teaching certificate for entrance into the program. Applicants without an appropriate background may be required to submit additional materials or complete additional preparatory coursework.

Graduation Requirements

Candidates for the Master of Arts degree in Educational Administration must earn a minimum of 36 semester credit hours and maintain a minimum overall GPA of 3.0. Normal course loads consist of 6-9 hours per semester.

Students must pass a comprehensive examination, administered during the final semester of coursework, as part of the requirements for graduation.

Program Policies and Standards

Admission to the program does not guarantee fitness to remain in the program. Only those students who meet program standards will be allowed to continue in the program as decided by the Educational Leadership program faculty. Fitness criteria include: The Texas Code of Ethics for Educators (TAC 247.2) and Texas A&M University-San Antonio Graduate Student Handbook Student Misconduct Standards (see student handbook).

Transferability of Courses

Transfer courses are limited to six hours in this program and are subject to approval by the Department Chair and Director of Graduate Studies. Transferred courses must have been taken within the last five years. Courses must meet requirements for program alignment. Internship courses that include the demonstration of leadership skills will not be eligible for transfer credit. Courses previously used for the completion of a graduate degree will not be approved for transfer to a subsequent graduate degree. All requests for the transfer of courses must be made within the first semester of enrollment.

Incompletes "I"

The spirit of the "Incomplete" is to give a student an opportunity to complete a course after the end of the semester. An Incomplete will only be considered under specific circumstances:

1. 70% of the class has been completed and student is passing with a "C" or better
2. The circumstance for which the "I" is requested is supported with documentation
3. Student has been attending class on a regular basis

Incompletes are not to be used to remedy excessive missed classes. Unforeseen circumstances precipitating the request for an “I”, should occur near the end of the semester. Students who are experiencing difficulties at the beginning or midway through the course should contact their professor immediately to discuss options. When a professor agrees to grant an “I”, a contract between the student and professor that outlines a specific timeline for completion of the course will be generated. Topics such as highest possible grade will also be outlined. If contract is not fulfilled, the professor will submit a change of grade form with earned letter grade. All “I”s will automatically revert to an “F” after one year.

Dropping a Course

Each student is responsible for knowing the drop dates for any given semester. Professors are not responsible, under any circumstances, for “dropping” a student from a course. To formally drop a course, students must obtain a drop form at the department under the program. Failure to fulfill academic requirements, related to dropping a course may result in a recorded failing grade.

Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Master of Arts degree in Educational Administration must earn a minimum of 36 semester credit hours. Students must pass a comprehensive examination toward the end of their formal coursework.

Required Graduate Coursework (27 semester credit hours)

EDAD 5301	Behavioral and Organizational Foundation of Education	3 credit hours
EDAD 5302	Elementary and Secondary Curricula	3 credit hours
EDAD 5313	School Administration: Public School Finance	3 credit hours
EDAD 5315	Administration of the Various Special Programs in Education	3 credit hours
EDAD 5341	School Administration	3 credit hours
EDAD 5342	Principalship — Elementary and Secondary Schools	3 credit hours
EDAD 5345	Internship in School Administration	3 credit hours
EDAD 5383	Public School Law	3 credit hours
EDAD 5329	Educational Research	3 credit hours

Additional Required Courses (9 semester credit hours):

EDAD 5307	School Administration: Advanced Problems	3 credit hours
EDAD 5312	Supervision: Advanced Problems	3 credit hours
EDAD 5330	Multicultural Education for Educators	3 credit hours
EDAD 5344	Supervision	3 credit hours
EDAD 5382	School Public Relations	3 credit hours

Principal Certification Only

Candidates seeking only Principal Certification must earn a minimum of 24 semester credit hours as follows:

EDAD 5341	School Administration	3 credit hours
EDAD 5301	Behavioral and Organizational Foundation of Education	3 credit hours
EDAD 5315	Administration of the Various Special Programs in Education	3 credit hours
EDAD 5342	Principalship — Elementary and Secondary Schools	3 credit hours
EDAD 5383	Public School Law	3 credit hours
EDAD 5313	School Administration: Public School Finance	3 credit hours
EDAD 5344	Supervision	3 credit hours
EDAD 5345	Internship in School Administration	3 credit hours

Additional Policies and Standards

Successful completion of the Master of Arts in Educational Administration degree and passing the Texas Examinations of Educator Standards (TExES) promotes students to be recommended for the State of Texas principalship or superintendency certification. Following are the State requirements for principal and superintendents in the state of Texas:

Texas Principal Certificate Requirements

- Successfully complete a principalship preparation program;
- Pass the principal certification exam (TExES-268 and PASL exams);
- Hold a master’s degree from an accredited institution of higher education; and
- Document two years of classroom teaching experience in an accredited school.
- Hold a valid teaching certification in the State of Texas (TAC §241.15).

Superintendent Certification Only

Candidates seeking only Superintendency Certification must earn a minimum of 15 semester credit hours as follows:

EDAD 5317	Workshop: Advanced School Problems	3 credit hours
EDAD 5351	Staff and Pupil Personnel Administration	3 credit hours
EDAD 5352	Educational Facilities Planning	3 credit hours
EDAD 5381	Administration & Management of Special Programs	3 credit hours
EDAD 5385	Superintendency Internship	3 credit hours

Texas Superintendent Certificate Requirements (TAC 242.20)

To be eligible to receive the standard Superintendent Certificate, a candidate must:

- (1) satisfactorily complete an examination based on the standards identified in §242.15 of this title (relating to Standards Required for the Superintendent Certificate); and
- (2) successfully complete a State Board for Educator Certification-approved superintendent preparation program and be recommended for certification by that program; and
- (3) hold, at a minimum, a master's degree from an accredited institution of higher education that at the time was accredited or otherwise approved by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and
- (4) hold, at a minimum, a principal certificate or the equivalent issued under this title or by another state or country; or
- (5) have at least three creditable years of managerial experience in a public school district.
 - (A) The managerial experience must include responsibility for:
 - (i) supervising or appraising faculty or staff;
 - (ii) conducting district-level planning and coordination of programs, activities, or initiatives; and
 - (iii) creating or maintaining a budget.
 - (B) The candidate must submit an application to Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff for the substitution of managerial experience as defined in this paragraph. The TEA staff will review the application and will notify the applicant, in writing, of approval or denial within 60 calendar days from date of receipt.

In order to take the state exam, a candidate must meet academic competency requirements and receive approval to test from Texas A&M-San Antonio (TAC §242.5).