Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership

Be The Change You Seek

Through critical thinking, analytic rigor and creative collaboration, you will gain the skills needed to affect positive change in your community.

The Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.) is designed for leaders in:

- Public Schools
- Community Colleges
- Universities
- Other Community Settings

Choose Your Path

Through research and internship courses, you will apply theory to practice to make educational systems more effective, equitable and sustainable.

Choose your concentration:

- Educational Administration
- General Studies
- Reading and Exceptionalities
- Higher Education
- Expressive Arts, Inquiry and Leadership
- Instructional Technology Leadership

Apply Now

The Ed.D. is 60 credit hours, including dissertation (up to 30 credit hours waived for EdS graduates).

To apply, you need to submit:

- Completed application and fee
- Current curriculum vitae/resume
- All college transcripts
- Letter of intent
- Evidence of 3 years of relevant work experience
- 4 references from colleagues or former professors
- GRE score no older than 5 years



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Why an Ed.D. at Appalachian?

- A variety of concentrations
- Nationally recognized professors
- A cohort structure that allows for the integration of educational scholarship and practice in a supportive, collegial environment
- Internship: Practice / research opportunities
- Research assistantships
- On-campus and off-campus cohorts

Our Doctoral Students Are Saying...

"The doctoral program has taught me to research life with a critical gaze; to ask questions and engage in challenging conversations. I have learned that our job as educational researchers is to answer questions and then to question the answers."

-Lisa McNeal, Instructional Developer, Appalachian State University

"The curriculum created for this program is as eclectic as its faculty. You will have the opportunity to learn from diverse faculty members from different departments and pursue different research agendas. This preparation is intended to provide you a comprehensive foundation as a future scholar and steward of the leadership discipline."

-JuanEs Ramirez , Appalachian State University

"The doctoral program helped me develop a passion to challenge the known and explore the unknown for new discoveries. I am not only an educator; I am now an educational researcher with the responsibility to lead educational reform."

-Fran Bates Oates, Elementary Education, Program Coordinator, Winston-Salem State University

Learn More!

On-campus prospects: edl.appstate.edu

Off-campus prospects: distance.appstate.edu



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Appalachian State University is committed to providing equal opportunity in education and employment to all applicants, students, and employees. The university does not discriminate in access to its educational programs and activities, or with respect to hiring or the terms and conditions of employment, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity and expression, political affiliation, age, disability, veteran status, genetic information or sexual orientation. The university actively promotes diversity among students and employees.



Lead & Change Educational Organizations



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Distance Education

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