Doctor of Philosophy
Educational Leadership
Fall 2020

The Educational Leadership and Policy Studies doctoral program brings together education scholars who come from a variety of experiences and expertise, and challenges the conventional wisdom that K-12 and postsecondary education are too different to be understood by the same practice, policy, or research. The program promotes and requires rigorous scholarship that spans the educational continuum and is ideal for students seeking to enter careers in research, institutional assessment, policy analysis, educational leadership, or the professoriate. Students of Educational Leadership programs should anticipate the academic rigor that the university and department embrace as its mission to obtain status as a “Tier 1, National Research University.”

Candidates who are interested in joining this program can now submit admissions materials for the fall 2020 cohort doctoral program. To do so, they should seek and receive admission into Graduate School and the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. To indicate interest, candidates should indicate an enrollment date of fall 2020. The early admissions deadline for applications for fall admission is March 1, 2020 and the final deadline is May 1, 2020.

In addition to successfully completing the course work and their dissertations, students are encouraged to participate in ELPS Research Day and attend a national conference.

For more information about the Ph.D. program in Educational Leadership, candidates can send an email to K16phd@uta.edu.
Ph.D. Program Application Procedures  
Cohort Beginning Fall 2020

Only complete application packets will be eligible for review.

1. Complete the online application to The University of Texas at Arlington Graduate School. The application is available at www.ApplyTexas.org. The early admissions deadline for completing the application and paying the requisite application fee is March 1, 2020. The final deadline is May 1, 2020.

2. Request official transcripts from every four-year college or university you attended as an undergraduate as well as all transcripts from every college or university at which you have earned graduate-level credits. Your transcript record must show that you have earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Have transcripts sent directly from the institutions to UTA Graduate School Admissions, 333 Davis, Box 19167, Arlington, Texas, 76019.

3. Request that the Educational Testing Service provide an official record of your achievement on the Graduate Record Exam to the UTA Graduate School. Visit http://www.ets.org for more information. UT-Arlington’s code is 6013. The official record of your score must be received by UTA by the admissions deadline to which you have applied. The GRE is required for consideration.

4. Submit the following items in a single application packet postmarked no later than March 1, 2020 for early admissions consideration or May 1st for our final review.
   a. a letter of application (one page maximum). This document is an introduction to you and is expected to be brief;
   b. a detailed resume or curriculum vita (no longer than four pages, highlighting your professional and leadership experience);
   c. a statement of interest for pursuing this particular doctoral degree and a discussion of how your previous experiences and your future aspirations fit the goals of the program (in 600 words or fewer);
   d. sealed envelopes containing the reference forms (available from http://grad.uta.edu/pdfs/prospective/Request_Recommendation.pdf) completed by at least three professional references. Envelopes should be signed by the recommender across the seal.

The complete program application packet should be sent to
Ph.D. ELPS Graduate Advisor  
UT-Arlington Educational Leadership & Policy  
Box 19575, Arlington, Texas, 76019-0575

Email correspondence should be sent to elpsadvising@uta.edu.

Admission decisions are based upon holistic reviews of all application materials by a committee of the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies graduate faculty. The highest values considered by the committee include a record of academic excellence, evidence of potential for success as an educational researcher and leader, strong GPA and GRE scores and letters of recommendation; strong, clear writing;
and a demonstrated understanding of the program’s mission. The application process is selective and competitive.

If any required documents are not received by the deadline, the application may not be considered. If an applicant is not selected for this cohort, the applicant is encouraged to apply again in future years.
Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership
66 semester credit hour minimum

Research Methods Core (15 hours)
EDAD 6304 K-16 Quantitative Research Design & Methodology
EDAD 6308 K-16 Qualitative Research Design & Methodology
EDAD 6310 Statistical Methods
EDAD 6315 Advanced Statistical Methods
EDAD 6318 Advanced Qualitative Research

Core Content Courses (15 hours)
EDAD 6301 Introduction to K-16 Doctoral Studies
EDAD 6325 K-16 Policy Analysis Research
EDAD 6330 K-16 Legal Policy Research
EDAD 6342 Organizational and Leadership Theory
EDAD 6343 History, Social, and Cultural Contexts of Education

Elective Courses (18 hours)
EDAD 6390 Selected Topics in K-16 Educational Leadership Research
EDAD 6392 Selected Topics in K-16 Educational Policy Research
EDAD 6391 Independent Study

All elective courses should be doctoral level and approved by the student’s major professor.

Dissertation (18 semester credit hours minimum)