



Alternate Path for Add-On Certification Educational Leadership (601F)

Our schools need caring, fair, ethical leaders who can create supportive educational environments that help all students learn. NSU is committed to preparing such leaders. Our alternate path for add-on certification in Educational Leadership (EDL) is designed for those already with a master's degree in any field, a valid teaching license, and prior professional experience, such as school, law, finance, or human resources. Applicants must also meet admission requirements for NSU's Graduate School.

Courses for alternate path candidates will be the same Educational Leadership courses required of candidates enrolled in the Educational Leadership Master's Degree program (see page 2). However, the master's program in EDL requires a minimum of 36 hours, whereas the faster-track alternate path requires typically 12-24 hours, depending upon the applicant's prior graduate coursework and work experience.

Program requirements include:

- Master's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
- Grades of B or better in the following courses: (1) foundations in educational research, (2) curriculum development, (3) instructional improvement and assessment, and (4) an action or applied research paper, project in lieu, or thesis. After faculty review, graduate coursework equivalent in content and completed at a regionally accredited university may be substituted for some coursework.
- Possible course challenge for those with comparable work experience or knowledge in an educational leadership area such as law, human resources, or finance. A successful challenge requires meeting learning objectives identified in the course syllabus and a minimum score of 80% on a comprehensive course examination.
- Minimum of 12 hours of EDL coursework at NSU before enrolling in a required internship.
- An Educational Leadership Portfolio and Oral Defense of the portfolio.
- Passing score on the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) prior to or during internship.

The program includes both online and traditional classroom courses, with classes offered primarily at the Natchitoches campus and some at the Learning Center in Rapides Parish (England Air Park). During the culminating internship, our graduate students (referred to as candidates) perform administrative activities while being supervised in a school setting.

Plan today to expand your educational administrative opportunities with a program that combines scholarly research and practical experience. The program is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC). Additionally, the internship experiences and EDL courses emphasize competencies and skills defined by the Louisiana Board of Regents and the Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC).



Prefix	Course No.	Course Title	Credits
EDCI	5020 ¹	Curriculum Development for School Improvement	
EDCI	5030 ¹	Instructional Improvement and Assessment	
EDL	5200 ²	Introduction to Standards-Based School Administration	3
EDL	5300 ²	Supervision for Evaluation and School Improvement	3
EDL	5400 ²	The Principalship: Leader of Leaders	3
EDL	5500 ²	Financial Resources for Public Schools	3
EDL	5600 ²	Human Resources for Professional Development	3
EDL	5700 ²	Ethics and School Law for School Administrators	3
EDL	5800 ²	School Community Relations	3
EDL	6200 ³	Internship in School Administration	3
Total			24

¹ Prerequisites to the Educational Leadership Alternate Path Program. Prior graduate-level coursework may be substituted based on review by faculty and approval by dean.

² Candidates may challenge courses.

³ Portfolio, Oral Defense of Portfolio, and passing score on the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) required prior to or during the internship.

For more information contact:

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CERTIFICATION

This degree may lead to add-on certification in the State of Louisiana. Out of state requirements are different.

ACCREDITATION

Northwestern State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, and specialist's degrees.

Northwestern's College of Education and Human Development has been continuously accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) since its initial accreditation in 1954. All other professional preparation programs are recognized as accredited by NCATE. This designation describes the professional education unit's conceptual framework and provides evidence that demonstrates NCATE's six standards are met. Educational Leadership M.Ed. degree is also accredited by ELCC.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of Northwestern State University of Louisiana not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability in its educational programs, activities or employment practices.



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 is a member of the
 University of Louisiana System