



Advanced Educational Leadership/District Leader Extension Program Advanced Certificate (12-15 credits)

The purpose of the Advanced Educational Leadership/District Leader Extension Program is to prepare candidates for positions as School District Leaders (SDL), with an emphasis on urban leadership, and to fulfill the New York State licensure requirements for SDL. The programs unite both the development of schools/districts and the development of educational leaders by preparing individuals who can be catalysts for school/district change and improved student performance. The program prepares students for positions of leadership (e.g., superintendents, assistant superintendents, directors, etc.) in urban districts with diverse populations. The curriculum is aligned with the New York State content-area requirements for programs preparing educational leaders, leading to certification as an SDL. The pedagogical content of the courses integrates practice with theory. Extensive field-based experiences, in collaboration with school, district and community agencies, are a central component throughout this program. Candidates develop their skills and capacities as leaders through both on-campus and school/district-based experiences with current educational leaders, teachers, counselors, other educational staff, parents, and students. The courses emphasize critical thinking, reflection, and problem solving. The Advanced Educational Leadership/District Leader Extension Program is committed to preparing candidates who demonstrate the nine essential characteristics of effective leaders, promoted by the New York State Education Department, and are based, in part, on the School of Education's Lehman Urban Transformative Education conceptual framework, whose mission is to facilitate the development of competent, caring, and qualified educators.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree in educational leadership from an accredited college or university (applicants may be required to take additional leadership courses pending transcript evaluation). (Applicants who possess a master's degree in a related field (e.g., teaching, school counseling, etc.) may be considered, depending on their current or prior leadership experience, as well as their career objectives. Such individuals may be required to take additional leadership courses pending transcript evaluation.)
- A minimum of 48 graduate credits (applicants may be required to take additional credits to meet minimum credit requirement)
- A minimum 3.0 (B) grade point average from a completed graduate degree program
- New York State initial or professional certification as a School Building Leader or the equivalent
- New York State permanent or professional certification in classroom teaching, school counseling, school psychology, or school social work or the equivalent
- A minimum of three years of successful N-12 experience as a leader, teacher, counselor, psychologist, or social worker;
- Three letters of recommendation: at least one must be from a current or former school site supervisor who can best evaluate the candidate's potential as a district leader, and at least one must be from a faculty member from prior studies who can best evaluate the candidate's potential for success as a graduate student
- A current resume

- A 1000-word essay that discusses the following: a) reasons for wanting to pursue a certification as a school district leader; b) candidate's philosophy on outstanding urban educational leadership, including the specific characteristics that contribute to effective leadership; c) current assessment of the state of educational leadership in urban schools, including what appears to be the greatest challenges and suggestions for overcoming these challenges; and d) brief analysis of a current educational policy, discussing its pros/cons and its impact on urban districts
- Candidates who satisfy the preliminary admissions requirements will be invited to a group interview

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

- Completion of 12-15 approved graduate credits of study in educational leadership;
- A minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0 (B); and
- Successful completion of 200-400 internship hours

Notes:

- 1) Students who have not completed any leadership internship courses at Lehman College will be required to complete 400 hours (6 credits) of district-level leadership experiences. Therefore, these students will be required to graduate with 15 credits and 400 internship hours.
- 2) The New York State Education Department has made passing the New York State Education Leadership Assessment in SDL a condition of program completion (for SDL programs only as per State regulations). A student enrolled in the Advanced Educational Leadership/District Leader Extension Program leading to SDL certification who does not pass the SDL assessment can enter what the State has termed a "companion program," whereby the student can still receive the Advanced Certificate but will not be eligible for SDL certification at that time. The companion program has the same admission requirements, curriculum, and graduation requirements; however, students who do not pass the SDL assessment will not receive New York State SDL certification.
- 3) The New York State Education Department requires that an applicant for SDL certification have a total of 60 graduate credits, so additional graduate credits may be needed for certification.

CURRICULUM

Semester I: (6 credits)

		Credits
EDL 712	Leading an Effective School District	3
EDL 721	The Leadership Experience-District/Extension	3

Continuation Requirements:

- 1) Completion of 12-15 approved graduate credits of study in educational leadership;
- 2) If conditions were placed on initial matriculation, all conditions must be met by the completion of the first 6 credits
- 3) A minimum 3.0 Grade Point Average, a completed internship supervision agreement signed by the region/district internship site supervisor, and permission of the Program Coordinator are required prior to placement in EDL 721 (The Leadership Experience/District Extension); and
- 4) Demonstrated evidence of ethics, as well as instructional leadership, organizational, administrative, and collaborative skills, through school-based and region/district-based projects

Semester II: (6 credits)

		Credits
EDL 716	Educational, Governance, Policy and Law	3
EDL 717	Finance, Operations, and Human Resource Management	3

Questions about the program?

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Questions about Admissions?

The Office of Graduate Admissions

<http://www.lehman.edu/admissions>