

The instructional program is designed to provide coursework leading to certificates and the Professional Counseling License. Certificates and licenses are awarded by the appropriate state agency following the applicants' completion of all requirements including any applicable examinations. Prospective students should know that professional licenses or certificates are not granted to convicted felons in the state of Texas.

**Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership**

The Ph.D. program in Educational Leadership is designed for individuals who wish to develop and improve their abilities to provide the highest level of leadership. The educational objectives of the Ph.D. Program in Educational Leadership are: 1) to meet higher education needs of the state and nation in this rapidly growing area; 2) to educate, train, and prepare individuals who possess the research and methodological skills to initiate, conduct and evaluate independent research; 3) to prepare educated citizens who are both able and willing to meet private leadership and public sector needs of society; and 4) to prepare liberally educated individuals who know how to think, reason, and apply knowledge that will enable them to work and use technology in an ever changing world.

**ADMISSION TO PROGRAM**

**Master's Degree**

Students desiring admission to the graduate programs in the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling must meet the general admission requirements outlined in the catalog section, "Graduate Admissions Requirement." Admission to graduate study, however, does not constitute admission to a master's degree program in the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling.

In determining an applicant's eligibility for admission to the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling, the following are essential:

1. A baccalaureate degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting agency equivalent to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
2. An overall undergraduate grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent;
3. Scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE); on file in the Graduate School;
4. A valid State of Texas Teaching Certificate and proof of three (3) years teaching experience if the student is pursuing the Educational Administration track.

Students who fail to meet the criteria for admission may be placed in a non-degree/special or provisional status. Such students are not entitled to pursue a degree in the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling until they receive unconditional admission.

Students who fail to satisfy the admission GPA minimum may not enroll in more than six (6) semester hours of graduate work in any one semester or full summer term while attempting to attain unconditional status. A student must obtain unconditional admission by the time 12 hours are earned or be dropped from the program.

Students admitted conditionally (non-degree/special or provisional status) when the GPA is less than 2.75 but no less than 2.45 on a 4.0 scale, may attain unconditional status by achieving the following:

1. A 3.0 GPA for the first 12 hours of graduate work, with no more than one "C";
2. Satisfactory completion (grades of A or B) of ADMN 5003 - Fundamentals of School Administration, and ADMN 5093, Educational Statistics (Administration); and
3. Satisfactory completion (grades of A or B) of CNSL 5123 - Appraisal Techniques, and CNSL 5093, Educational Statistics (Counseling).

Students may apply for conditional admission to graduate study (non-degree/special status) when the GPA is less than 2.45 but a minimum of 2.25. In addition to the general application requirements, supplementary requirements under this category are indicated below:

1. Request and pass a departmental interview, and
2. Make a passing score of 260 on the Reading Section of the TASP Examination (only the Reading Section of the TASP Examination must be taken), and maintain at least a "B" (3.0) average in all coursework.

Students may not enroll in more than six (6) semester hours of graduate work per term and may not enroll in more than 12 semester hours while in this category. Students who have completed a total of 12 semester hours, but who have been unsuccessful in scoring 260 or above on the Reading portion of the TASP Examination, will be dismissed from the program.

#### **The Ph.D. Program**

Admission Criteria for the Ph.D. Program in Educational Leadership, as established by the Program faculty, are as follows:

**Required elements:** (In order for an applicant to be considered, all criteria below must be submitted by the semester deadline.)

1. Baccalaureate degree conferred by an accredited institution;
2. A Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.75, on a four-point scale on all completed undergraduate coursework preferred;
3. Master's degree prior to entering doctoral course work, conferred by an accredited institution;
4. A Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.2, or higher, on a four-point scale on all completed coursework above the Master's degree;
5. Original transcripts, submitted to the Graduate School for all academic work taken at the undergraduate and graduate levels (unofficial copies may be used by the Doctoral Committee in initial screening);

6. Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score report, submitted to the Graduate School (an unofficial copy may be used by the Doctoral Committee in initial screening);
7. Three letters of recommendation from persons sufficiently acquainted with the applicant's ability and his or her potential to successfully complete a doctoral program;
8. Original written essay demonstrating strong writing skills that includes the following: autobiography, professional aspirations and achievements and how obtaining the Ph.D. in Educational Leadership will enhance the applicant's ability to affect change in the educational arena; and
9. If a foreign student, submission of official results from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A score of 600 or higher is mandatory.

***Preferences:***

1. A minimum of 3 years teaching experience in public or private institutions;
2. A Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0, or higher, on four-point scale on all completed undergraduate coursework;
3. Master's degree in Educational Leadership/Administration or related fields. A Secondary preference is given to applicants who are certified administrators and have a minimum of 2 years administrative experience;
4. A Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.5, or higher, on a four-point scale in all completed graduate course work;
5. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Verbal and Quantitative scores in the higher percentiles;
6. Demonstrated evidence of scholarly activity that includes: publications, presentations at conferences, and grantsmanship;
7. Graduate research methods course (if not taken, course must be completed); and
8. Graduate statistics course (if not taken, course must be completed).

**Completion of Entrance Requirements**

Students enrolled in non-degree/special or provisional status may take no more than 12 semester hours prior to attainment of unconditional admission, and must attain unconditional status within four school terms from the time of their first enrollment (three regular and one summer semester). If unconditional status has not been attained within that time frame, the student will be dismissed from the program. Provisionally admitted students may withdraw from no more than three courses during their initial probationary status. Unconditional admission will require completion of all university requirements. Discovery of enrollment completed in violation of these requirements may result in permanent bar from enrollment in the Administration/Counseling Program.

**TRANSFER CREDIT**

Either transfer or continuing students may transfer credit from other universities to Prairie View A&M University; however, the grade of "C" will not be accepted for transfer credit. Additional guidelines are indicated below: