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.