



“**Mercer is a great school for leadership because it’s personable, and you can tell they care. They teach you the heart of education.**”

VEENA BLACK

M.Ed. in Educational Leadership (Tier I), '23
Second Grade Teacher; STEM Lead
Briarlake Elementary School
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MERCER
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

**MASTER OF
EDUCATION - TIER I**

**SPECIALIST IN
EDUCATION - TIER II**

Discover. Lead. Transform.

**Advance Your Career in
P-12 Leadership**

As a leader in innovative, enriching curricula, Mercer University prepares candidates to lead the way as visionaries in education by offering educational leadership programs designed to help educators cultivate their leadership potential.

Prepare to take on more responsibility within your school or district through one of our P-12 leadership programs:

- **M.Ed. in Educational Leadership - Tier I**
- **Educational Leadership Tier I Certification Only**
- **Ed.S. in Educational Leadership - Tier II**
- **Educational Leadership Tier II Certification Only**

PROGRAM DETAILS

Format: Blended combination of online and on-campus instruction

Start Term: January, May, and August

Course Length: 8 weeks

Completion Time:

Tier I: 16 months

Tier II: 24 months

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MORE**



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Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Leadership - Tier I

Mercer’s **M.Ed. in Educational Leadership with Tier I certification** is designed to prepare candidates with one or more years of teaching or related experience for leadership positions up to the assistant principal within the school, or a variety of district-level leadership positions that do not supervise principals or other district leaders. The program includes relevant and rigorous clinical practice, which provides opportunities for candidates to apply knowledge and skills learned in the program to become effective school leaders with an emphasis on instructional leadership.

Upon completion of the program and passing scores on the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) Educational Leadership content assessment, candidates will be eligible for Level 5 Educational Leadership certification.

This program is also offered as a non-degree program to eligible applicants who already hold Level 5 certification.

 **Leads to Level 5 certification**

Program of Study

EDEL 605	Leadership in Curriculum and Supervision
EDEL 615	Leadership in Today’s Schools
EDEL 625	Managing the School Environment
EDEL 635	Assessment and Evaluation
EDEL 637	Leadership Clinical Internship I
EDEL 638	Leadership Clinical Internship II
EDEL 655	School Law and Ethics
EDEL 665	Leadership in Instructional Supervision
EDEL 685	Technology for School Leaders
EDEL 695	Educational Research for School Leaders

Total Program Requirements: 30 hours
Clinical Practice Requirement: 250 hours

Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission must hold a bachelor’s degree from a college or university accredited by an institutional accreditor recognized by the U.S. Department of Education with a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

- APPLICATION COMPONENTS:**
- Application for admission
 - \$25 non-refundable application fee
 - Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions
 - Narrative of career and academic goals
 - Résumé
 - Principal verification form
 - Passing scores on GACE Georgia Ethics for Educational Leaders Assessment (Entry Portion)
 - Copy of current teaching certificate

Built-In Mentorship Opportunity

Current M.Ed. in Educational Leadership – Tier I candidates have the opportunity to provide mentorship to individuals pursuing their Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) through Mercer University’s **Georgia Educators Networking to Revolutionize and Transform Education (GENERATE)** teacher residency program. The GENERATE program provides a path for career changers to obtain their M.A.T., become certified teachers in the State of Georgia, and teach in high-need content areas within partner school districts.

Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) in Educational Leadership - Tier II

Mercer’s **Ed.S. in Educational Leadership with Tier II certification** supports current educational leaders in the development of leadership theory and practical skills as they look to advance to the top levels of educational leadership. Diverse field experiences throughout the program help prepare leaders to support the needs of their educators, staff, students, and community. Mercer’s faculty provide continual support to candidates, assisting in their development as transformational leaders.

Upon completion of the program and passing the Professional Assessment for School Leaders (PASL), candidates will be eligible to upgrade their leadership certificate to Level 6. Leaders with this certification are eligible for all leadership positions at the building and district levels.

Eligible Ph.D. candidates on the P–12 School Leadership track may choose an option to earn their Tier II certification while enrolled in the Ph.D. program.

This program is also offered as a non-degree program to eligible applicants who already hold Level 6 certification.

 **Leads to Level 6 certification**

Program of Study

EDEL 707	Cognition and Learning in Curriculum and Instruction
EDEL 708	Effective Human Resources Practices
EDEL 709	School Finance and Budgeting
EDEL 710	Facilitating Professional Learning and Development
EDEL 715	The Principalship/Superintendency
EDEL 721	Theoretical and Empirical Foundations of Leadership
EDEL 722	School, Community and Society
EDEL 723	Strategies for Improving Low Performing Schools
EDEL 724	Performance-based Clinical Practice Internship I
EDEL 725	Performance-based Clinical Practice Internship II

Total Program Requirements: 30 hours
Clinical Practice Requirement: 750 hours

Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission must hold a bachelor’s degree from a college or university accredited by an institutional accreditor recognized by the U.S. Department of Education with a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants must also hold Tier I certification.

- APPLICATION COMPONENTS:**
- Application for admission
 - \$30 non-refundable application fee
 - Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions
 - Narrative of career and academic goals
 - Résumé
 - System recommendation/verification form
 - Tier I Georgia Leadership certification
 - Copy of current teaching certificate
 - Verifiable school leadership role or position

Mercer’s Ed.S. in Educational Leadership with Tier II certification is also aligned to the Leader Keys Effectiveness System and the Georgia Educational Leadership Standards (GELS).