



MASTER OF
EDUCATION - TIER I

SPECIALIST IN
EDUCATION - TIER II

Discover. Lead. Transform.



“**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
Teacher, DeKalb County School District

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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: Online instruction, 75% synchronous online and 25% asynchronous online

Start Terms: January, May, and August

Course Length: 8 weeks and 16 weeks

Completion Time:
Tier I with M.Ed.: 12-16 months
Tier II with Specialist: 12-16 months
Tier I certification-only: 6-9 months
Tier II certification-only: 6-9 months

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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 for entry-level leadership positions that include school level positions below the principal and district level positions that do not supervise principals. 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

**Required for Tier I Certification Only Non-degree Program*

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
- Hold a teaching certificate as a Georgia educator in a teaching or service field at Level 4 or above

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)
- Two letters of recommendation

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 Performance 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.

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

Candidates may choose to pursue Tier II certification through the option to embed Tier II Certification in the Ph.D. in Educational Leadership

☀ 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

**Required for Tier II Certification Only Non-degree Program*

Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission must:

- Hold a master'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
- Have completed at least 3 years of certificated school experience
- Have completed an approved Tier I Leadership certification program
- Hold a Level 5 teaching certificate

APPLICATION COMPONENTS:

- Application for admission
- \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions
- Signed and dated narrative of career and academic goals
- Résumé
- System recommendation/verification form
- Tier I Georgia Leadership certification
- Copy of current Georgia educator certificate (level 5 or higher)
- Verifiable school leadership role or position
- Three letters of recommendation
- Certification of completion for GACE® Georgia Ethics for Educational Leaders Assessment (not required if the student completed the GACE® Ethics Assessment for their Tier I program)

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).

