Western Michigan University's Educational Leadership (M.A., Ed.S., Ph.D.) programs prepare transformational leaders for K-12, Higher Education, and other organizations focused on meeting the learning outcomes of a diverse society.

Concentrations available in:
- K-12 Leadership (M.A., Ed.S., Ph.D.)
- Higher Education Leadership (Certificate, M.A., Ph.D.)
- Career Technical Education (Ph.D.)
- Organizational Analysis (Ph.D.)
- Organizational and Global Leadership (M.A.)

Programs support active instruction by merging cutting-edge theory with best practices.

Nationally recognized K-12 Leadership programs are aligned with state administrative certification requirements, preparing both administrators and teacher leaders.

Higher Education Leadership programs prepare entry-level student affairs professionals (via the M.A.), as well as administrators and faculty working toward advanced positions (via the Certificate and Ph.D.).

Programs are geared for working professionals, offering courses during the evening, weekend, hybrid, and on-line courses, and at multiple WMU campuses.
Teaching, Research, and Program Focus Areas
WMU’s educational leadership faculty have a strong track record of grant-funded research and scholarly productivity, and are entrepreneurial and well-connected with practitioners in the field. Key areas of expertise include: K-12 Principalship and Teacher Leadership Development; Educational Policy, Reform, and Analysis; Equity and Diversity in Higher Education; Faculty Development; and Data-Informed Decision-making. Our department houses the Center for Educational Leadership and Policy.

Our goal is to produce a diverse academic and professional community of ethically engaged and intellectually active scholars and scholar-practitioners.

Our graduates are prepared to excel in middle to advanced-level leadership positions within K-12, higher education or other organizations.

Admissions
The annual application deadline for the M.A. in Higher Education and Student Affairs is December 15, while the deadline for the Ph.D. program is January 15. Applications for the other M.A. concentrations are on-going, while the Ed.S. has deadlines three times per year (November, April & July). The GRE is required for the Ph.D. and Ed.S. programs. All other required application materials are noted on the department web site: wmich.edu/leadership

Graduate Assistantships/Associateships
Nearly all of the M.A. students in the Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership concentration obtain graduate assistantships within WMU and area institutions (unless already employed in higher education). For the other M.A. concentrations, and the Ph.D. programs, nearly all students are full-time working professionals. A small number of doctoral associate positions are available.

Contacts
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Western Michigan University
One of America’s 147 public research universities, Western Michigan University offers a wide range of top-notch graduate programs, including 74 at the master’s level and 31 at the doctoral level. Twenty-one percent of WMU’s nearly 24,000 students are enrolled in graduate coursework, another one-fifth are minority students and nearly 8 percent of all students hail from other countries.

Kalamazoo
The city of Kalamazoo is located midway between Detroit and Chicago and at the heart of a metropolitan area of more than 330,000 people. On national lists, Kalamazoo rates among the top 10 cities for creative workers as well as for work-life balance. It also numbers among “The 29 Cities All Twentysomethings Should Pick Up And Move To.”

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