



## Educational Leadership and Policy Studies

The Educational Leadership and Policy Studies program prepares courageous, visionary, and transformative leaders in educational settings at all levels of the education system. To achieve this, we offer intensive, integrated academic and field-based experiences and competency-based learning. Our students create learning communities that foster academic achievement and optimal growth and development for all learners.

Our students focus on leadership, policy studies, and research that are relevant and appropriate for meeting today's educational challenges.

All of our programs use a cohort structure to build learning communities and professional networks. We partner with individuals, schools, and districts to build leadership capacity and improve diverse educational contexts.



### Available Degrees

<b>PhD</b>	The PhD program is designed for individuals interested in generating theory and acquiring advanced research skills. Students begin their doctoral studies with colleagues in the EdD program for two years of coursework and continue on for a third year of coursework consisting of advanced research methodology and a specialized focus of study.
Requirements	90 quarter credit hours and completion of a traditional dissertation
Completion	4-7 years
<b>EdD</b>	This EdD degree offers several field-based options for doctoral level research that address important issues of practice. Applicants must hold a Master's degree in an education-related field and have completed principal, teacher-leadership, or other formal leadership preparation.
Requirements	65 credit hours and completion of Doctoral Research Project
Completion	3 to 7 years

<b>MA</b>	The MA in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS) is designed to prepare students to assume leadership roles in elementary and secondary educational settings. The degree builds upon the coursework required for our certificate: Ritchie Program for School Leaders: Executive Leadership for Successful Schools (Ritchie ELSS). * See <i>certificate for cohort options below</i> .
Requirements	45-47 credit hours that consist of the district-partnered Ritchie ELSS program certificate (30 credit hours) plus 15 credit hours and the completion of an Action Research Capstone Project
Completion	1.5 years

<b>Certificate</b>	<p>The Educational Leadership and Policy Studies department offers a certificate program that leads to recommendation for Colorado principal licensure: Ritchie Program for School Leaders: Executive Leadership for Successful Schools (Ritchie ELSS). This program offers competency-based learning that is individualized to the leadership needs of the aspiring leader and the needs of schools. The six cohort options are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Adams County Cohort:</b> Serves educators working in the Adams County Schools</li> <li>• <b>Aurora Public Schools (APS) Cohort:</b> Serves educators working in the Aurora Public School district.</li> <li>• <b>Denver Public Schools (DPS) Cohort:</b> Serves educators working in the Denver Public School district.</li> <li>• <b>Mountain Area Cohort:</b> Serves educators in the Western Slope and Central Mountain region of Colorado.</li> <li>• <b>Non-District Specific Cohort (DU Campus):</b> Open to all aspiring school leaders seeking a Colorado principal license.</li> <li>• <b>Teach For America (TFA) Cohort:</b> For TFA alumni in Colorado and across the United States.</li> </ul> <p><i>NOTE: The Non-District Specific Cohort (DU Campus) is open to applicants from any district or educational setting (private, charter, etc.) and applicants who are not currently working in an educational setting. The partnership cohorts (Adams, APS, DPS, Mountain Area, and TFA) are designed for applicants who work within or are affiliated with those specific settings.</i></p>
Requirements	90 quarter credit hours and completion of a traditional dissertation
Completion	4-7 years

**For more information and to apply go to:**  
<http://morgridge.du.edu/apply/educational-leadership-policy-studies-cert-ma-application/>