



## **Doctor of Philosophy in K-16 Educational Leadership**

### **Introduction**

The Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS) doctoral program brings together education scholars who come from a variety of experiences and expertise. This K-16 doctoral program challenges the conventional wisdom that K-12 and postsecondary education are too different to be studied by similar approaches of practice, policy, or research. The program requires and promotes rigorous scholarship that spans the educational continuum and is ideal for students seeking to enter careers in research, institutional assessment, policy analysis, educational leadership, or the professoriate. Students admitted to the K-16 Educational Leadership program should anticipate the academic rigor the university embraces as a “Texas Tier One University” and a “National Research University with Very High Research Activity.”

This program requires a minimum of 66 semester credit hours (SCHs), including 15 SCHs of methods core courses, 15 SCHs of core content courses, 18 SCHs of elective courses, and 18 SCHs of the dissertation. More detailed information is presented below.

#### **Research Methods Core (15 SCHs)**

EDAD 6304 K-16 Quantitative Research Design & Methodology  
EDAD 6308 K-16 Qualitative Research Design & Methodology  
EDAD 6310 Statistical Methods  
EDAD 6315 Advanced Statistical Methods  
EDAD 6318 Advanced Qualitative Research

#### **Core Content Courses (15 SCHs)**

EDAD 6301 Introduction to K-16 Doctoral Studies  
EDAD 6325 K-16 Policy Analysis Research  
EDAD 6330 K-16 Legal Policy Research  
EDAD 6342 Organizational and Leadership Theory  
EDAD 6343 History, Social, and Cultural Contexts of Education

#### **Elective Courses (18 SCHs)** *(Note. All elective courses should be doctoral level and approved by the student's major professor.)*

EDAD 6390 Selected Topics in K-16 Educational Leadership Research  
EDAD 6392 Selected Topics in K-16 Educational Policy Research  
EDAD 6391 Independent Study

#### **Dissertation (18 SCHs minimum)**

In addition to successfully completing the course work and their dissertations, students are encouraged to participate in COEd Research Day, be active with ELPS Center for Educational Research, Policy, and Practice (CERPP), and attend a national conference.

### **Application Deadlines**

Candidates who are interested in joining this program can now submit admission materials for the Fall 2024 cohort. To do so, they should seek and receive admission into UTA Graduate School *and* the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. The admission deadline for Fall 2024 enrollment is **Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**, at 11:59 pm CST.

## Application Materials

A complete application packet contains:

- 1) Complete the **online application** to The University of Texas at Arlington Graduate School. The application is available at <https://goapplytexas.org/>.
- 2) Pay the requisite **application fee** by the admission deadline of March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- 3) Request **official transcripts** from every four-year college or university you attended as an undergraduate and graduate student. Your transcript record must show that you have earned bachelor's and master's degrees, and received a minimum **3.5 GPA** in your Master's degree coursework. Have transcripts sent directly from the institutions to *UTA Graduate School Admissions, 333 Davis, Box 19167, Arlington, Texas, 76019*.
- 4) Submit a detailed **resume or curriculum vita** (no longer than four pages) highlighting your professional and leadership experience.
- 5) Submit a **statement of interest** that covers why you are interested in pursuing an ELPS K-16 doctoral degree, what you plan to research (if you know), what ELPS faculty member you would like to work with and why (if you know), and how your previous experiences and your future aspirations fit the goals of the program (in 600 words or less).
- 6) Have your **three recommenders** submit their reference forms to be included in your admissions file. The form is available at [https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/education/documents-folder/forms/2021\\_non\\_aop\\_reference\\_recommendation\\_form.ashx](https://cdn.web.uta.edu/-/media/project/website/education/documents-folder/forms/2021_non_aop_reference_recommendation_form.ashx)
- 7) For applicants whose native language is not English and who do not hold a bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited U.S. institution, please follow the UTA policy (<https://www.uta.edu/admissions/apply/international-graduate>) to submit **TOEFL** or **IELTS** scores.

Candidates will receive admissions decisions in April. Admission decisions are based upon holistic reviews of all application materials by an Educational Leadership and Policy Studies graduate faculty committee. The committee values a record of academic excellence, evidence of potential for success as an educational researcher and leader, strong academic records, and letters of recommendation. It also values clear and concise writing, coherent educational and professional goals, and a demonstrated understanding of the program's mission. The application process is selective and competitive.

**All application materials should be sent to [coedgrad@uta.edu](mailto:coedgrad@uta.edu) unless directed otherwise. Only complete application packets will be eligible for review for admissions.**