

# Educational Leadership at William Paterson University

The Educational Leadership program at William Paterson University enjoys an outstanding reputation for providing high quality educational experiences that successfully prepare candidates to assume leadership positions in the schools of the future.



Dr. Joseph Murphy of Vanderbilt University recently completed a Critical Friends Review Process for the New Jersey Department of Education. Following his review of all educational leadership programs in the state, he wrote the following regarding the program at William Paterson University.

“Let us begin by saying that you have developed a great program, one of the two or three most thoughtful and carefully built masters programs that we have seen in our travels throughout the United States. It really looks like a national model about how to undertake the business of preparing school leaders for tomorrow’s schools.”

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The Educational Leadership Program accepts applications through June 1<sup>st</sup> for acceptance in the next cohort which begins in July. The program is designed around a cohort model with all candidates taking the same courses through a prescribed two year sequence. The program begins with an orientation in May with the first course held in July. Thereafter, courses are offered on three Friday evenings from 4:45 - 9:00 PM and four Saturdays from 9:00 - 4:00 PM (one weekend per month for four months for each course). M.Ed. candidates take two courses during the fall and spring semesters and two courses during the summer sessions for each of two years. The sequence is summer year one (3 credits), fall year one (6 credits), spring year one (6 credits), summer year two (3 credits), fall year two (6 credits), spring year two (6 credits). Additionally students are required to fulfill a 300 hour administrative internship during the two year program (6 credits) and complete an action research project (3 credits). The M.Ed. program is 39 credits in which graduates also receive their supervisory endorsement and upon passing the School Leadership Licensure Assessment (SLLA) they receive a certificate of eligibility for school principal.

For candidates who are already hold a master's degree and are only interested in the principal certification, a modified program exists that involves completing 30 credits over the same two year period. Typically this would mean that candidates take only one course instead of two during two of the four semesters. Additionally, the formal write-up and submission of the action research project is significantly modified. This program involves taking a total of 30 credits during the two year sequence.

Transfer credit is considered but limited to not more than six (6) credits for courses that closely match course descriptions of those offered in the M.Ed. or the 30 credit certification programs. Courses must have been taken within the past five years and were not part of another degree program. Final decisions are made by the program director after careful review of all submitted materials.

An information meeting or interview can easily be arranged to answer any of your questions or share additional information. If interested, please contact Dr. Kevin J. Walsh, EDLP Program Director at [walshk@wpunj.edu](mailto:walshk@wpunj.edu) or by call 973-720-3136.