Cabrini University's Doctor of Education (EdD) in Educational Leadership program is a 60-credit post-master's program that continues Cabrini's dedication to academic excellence, leadership development, and commitment to social justice. Cabrini is a top-ranked education program provider in the state of Pennsylvania, and the Doctor of Educational Leadership continues that tradition of excellence. The program is designed to fit into the busy lives of working adults, balancing life with career goal attainment through education.

The EdD in Educational Leadership is an advanced degree program for post-master's students seeking to become scholars and leaders in their respective fields of education through the attainment of a doctoral degree. The program is comprised of a common core of foundational leadership courses, designed to develop a deep knowledge of theory and leadership in education based on social justice; concentration courses, to develop the specialized knowledge and skills needed for a chosen area of study; and research and dissertation courses, to conduct original research to promote social justice and academic excellence for the betterment of education.

New students who meet the admission criteria are admitted to the program as a cohort and begin in the summer semester on Cabrini's beautiful campus in suburban Philadelphia. Cabrini University welcomes learners of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds and prepares them to become engaged citizens of the world.

Program Overview

The EdD in Educational Leadership at Cabrini requires 60 post-master's credits, including the writing and defense of a dissertation. Most coursework is three credits with one-credit dissertation and leadership seminars and three-credit research courses distributed throughout the program. The curriculum prepares students to develop their dissertation proposal and embark on their dissertation research to complete the program in as little as three-four years depending on the research design of the dissertation.

Coursework combines face-to-face and online instruction from Cabrini’s expert faculty with research-based practices and theory to empower students as leaders of educational organizations to influence educational policy and practice. A cohort model, in which students take all classes together, allows for extensive networking and relationship building with peer and faculty support throughout the program. Continuous enrollment—summer, fall, and spring—is required to complete the coursework leading up to the dissertation proposal and dissertation.

The areas of common courses for all doctoral students totals 60 credits in the following areas: Foundations of Leadership, Concentration, Research, Dissertation Seminars, and Dissertation.
The **Program Concentrations** currently available to students include:

- **PK-12 School Leadership** with optional Pennsylvania Administrative I Certification
- **Curriculum and Instruction Leadership**
- **Higher Education Leadership**

* Cabrini University is applying for PDE approval to offer the Curriculum & Instruction Supervisory Certification which, if approved, will be embedded in this concentration.

**Admission Requirements**

Admission to the doctoral program is competitive and based on several indicators of academic quality that include the potential for leadership and scholarship. Admission takes place in a two-part process.

Submission of the following documents for review by the Doctor of Educational Leadership Admissions Committee:

- Official Transcripts from all institutions attended
- Undergraduate Transcript/s from an accredited institution indicating a bachelor’s degree was conferred
- Official Graduate Transcript/s from an accredited institution indicating the award of a Master of Education degree or a related field with a 3.0 GPA or higher;
- Current resume or curriculum vitae;
- Copies of professional state certifications/teaching licenses (if applicable);
- A scholarly or professional project, report, paper, or product *
- An essay (approx. 2 pages in length) explaining how this work illustrates the applicant’s potential for leadership and doctoral level scholarship as related to the Cabrini Mission;
- Letters from two references having knowledge of the applicant’s academic ability and/or professional work and leadership potential;
- $50.00 non-refundable application fee.

Applicants who meet the criteria for admission after a review of the documents will be invited to campus to complete the second part of the admission process, which includes:

- An interview with the Doctor of Educational Leadership Admission Committee.

* The scholarly project and essay requirement give the prospective student an opportunity to demonstrate their readiness to engage in doctoral level work, i.e., interpreting study findings; evaluating research; synthesizing ideas and crafting an argument from the literature. The project/essay allows the committee to ascertain the students’ understanding of “scholarship” and the research process. The project/essay should follow general academic conventions, such as the use of APA or standard citation format used in the relevant discipline.

**Transfer Credits**

Students may be permitted to transfer up to 12 credits, acquired post-masters from accredited institutions, toward the doctoral degree pending a review of transcripts. Credits must be posted on a graduate transcript after the date of the award of the master’s degree. Transfer credit must be requested at time of admission to the program.
EdD Program of Study - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**Foundations of Leadership (13 credits)** (Doctoral Courses are 3 Credits Unless Otherwise Noted)
- EDD 710 Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations of Leadership
- EDD 712 Policy and Social Justice for Educational Leaders
- EDD 714 Organizational Leadership for a Diverse and Global Society
- EDD 715 Exploring Research Literature in Educational Leadership (1 credit)
- EDD 716 Ethics in Educational Leadership

**Research (12 credits)**
- EDD 781 Understanding and Evaluating Educational Research
- EDD 782 Qualitative Research Methodologies I
- EDD 784 Quantitative Research Methodologies I
- **One Required Research Elective:**
  - EDD 786 Mixed Methods in Research or
  - EDD 787 Qualitative Research Methodologies II or
  - EDD 788 Quantitative Research Methodologies II

**Concentration Areas (15 credits)** Students select one:

**PK-12 School Leadership**
- EDD 720 Educational Programs for Diverse Learning Needs (36 field hours)
- EDD 722 Legal and Fiscal Management for School Administrators (36 field hours)
- EDD 724 Contemporary School Leadership for School Administrators (36 field hours)
- EDD 726 Theories & Strategies of Learning & Assessment (36 field hours)
- EDD 728 Supervision & Professional Development for School Administrators (36 field hours)

Applicants seeking the PK-12 Administrative Certification in the PK-12 School Leadership concentration must hold a valid PA teaching certificate at the time of admission and complete 180 field hours (embedded in courses) in addition to the 180 internship hours in EDD 739. This course is not taken for credit toward the doctoral degree. In order to be recommended for certification, individuals must meet all PDE requirements for this certification.

**Curriculum and Instruction Leadership**
- EDD 740 Educational Programs for Diverse Learning Needs
- EDD 742 Theories and Models of Curriculum
- EDD 744 Curriculum Design and Development
- EDD 746 Theories and Strategies of Learning and Assessment
- EDD 748 Supervision and Professional Development

Applicants seeking the Curriculum & Instruction Supervisory Certification option in the Curriculum & Instruction Leadership concentration must complete field hours (embedded in courses) in addition to the internship hours in EDD 749. This course is not taken for credit toward the doctoral degree. In order to be recommended for certification, individuals must have at least five years successful teaching experience and meet all other PDE requirements.

**Higher Education Leadership**
- EDD 750 Adult Learners in a Global Learning Environment
- EDD 752 Organizational Structures in Higher Education
- EDD 754 Academic Functions in Higher Education
- EDD 756 Administrative Functions in Higher Education
- EDD 758 Governance and Law in Higher Education

**Dissertation (20 required credits)**
- EDD 720 Academic Writing for the Dissertation
- EDD 791 Dissertation Seminar I (1 credit)
- EDD 792 Dissertation Seminar II (2 credit)
- EDD 793 Dissertation Seminar III (2 credit)
- EDD 794 Dissertation Proposal (Variable credits: 6-9)
- EDD 795 Dissertation (Variable credits: 6-18)

Program of Study Subject to Change
2020 Admission Information

Students apply online at http://www.cabrini.edu/EdD

Application Deadline:  Priority Deadline March 1, 2020
                     Application Deadline April 30, 2020

Completed applications are reviewed in the order received with a priority given to applications received by March 1, 2020. Students who apply early will be admitted early.

Information Sessions

At Cabrini University, location TBD

• Saturday, October 26, 2019 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm)
• Saturday, January 11, 2020 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm)
• Wednesday, March 4 (5:00-6:00 pm)
• Thursday, April 2 (5:00-6:00 pm)

Financial Aid

Federal financial aid is available for matriculated graduate students who take a minimum of six credits a semester. If you plan on applying for federal financial aid, please complete your FAFSA at fafsa.ed.gov and be sure to include Cabrini’s code: 003241. Graduate students at Cabrini are also required to complete a Supplemental Application, which is available on the Financial Aid website.

If you have any questions, please contact our supportive staff at financialaid@cabrini.edu or 610.902.8188.

Summer 2020 Schedule – COURSES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Students admitted to the doctoral cohort are required to register for 7-doctoral credits for summer 2017. The preliminary schedule appears below and is subject to change.

• EDD 791 Dissertation Seminar I (1 credit)
  May 18-August 7 – Face-to-Face meetings on Thursdays (5-9:30)
• EDD 712 Policy and Social Justice for Educational Leaders (3 credits)
  May 18-June 26 – Face-to-Face meetings on Thursdays (5-9:30 pm)
• EDD 716 Ethics in Educational Leadership (3 credits)
  June 29-August 7 – Face-to-Face meetings on Thursdays (5-9:30 pm)

The 3-credit courses will be hybrid with on-campus sessions supplemented with online sessions throughout each of two 6-week summer sessions, so students only come to campus on designated dates.
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**FAQs: Admission**

Q: Can I apply before I complete my Master’s degree?

A: You may apply; however, admission will be contingent on the successful completion of the master’s degree and final GPA. The degree must be awarded before the first summer session begins.

Q: The application requires the submission of a scholarly or professional program and essay? What should I submit and write?

A: Applicants should select a submission in which they were the primary or sole author of an original scholarly work, such as a research paper, thesis, or class presentation or a professional work that required research, such as a curriculum document, grant proposal, or a public or conference presentation. The essay should be concise and explain how the submission reflects the applicant’s ability for leadership and scholarship as related to the Cabrini Mission. These materials are not returned to the applicant.

The scholarly project and essay requirement give the prospective student an opportunity to demonstrate their readiness to engage in doctoral level work, i.e., interpreting study findings; evaluating research; synthesizing ideas and crafting an argument from the literature. The project/essay allows the committee to ascertain the students’ understanding of "scholarship" and the research process. The project/essay should follow general academic conventions, such as the use of APA or standard citation format used in the relevant discipline.

Q: How will I be informed if I am accepted into the program?

A: Applicants meeting the criteria for admission will be notified of acceptance by the Office of Graduate Admissions. Those who do not meet the criteria for admission during any part of the admission process will be notified in writing. Students may be wait listed for admission should all available spaces fill.

Q: Is there financial aid to support my doctoral studies?

A: The Cabrini website includes a link to Graduate Financial Aid with detailed directions on how to pursue financial aid. Federal financial aid is available for matriculated graduate students who take a minimum of six credits a semester.

Q: How do I apply and submit the required materials?

A: Prospective students interested in pursuing their EdD in Educational Leadership can apply online at the Cabrini website at the Graduate Admissions link.

You are encouraged to submit official transcripts, electronically, from each institution attended to graduate@cabrini.edu.

**FAQs: Program**

Q: What if I am undecided on a concentration when I begin the program?

A: The program design requires that all students begin with the leadership foundation courses and an initial research course in the first semesters of the program to allow time to explore research interests and career goals and to allow time to select a concentration.
Q: Do I need to take time off work for my classes?
A: Classes are offered in the evenings in a blended format that includes face-to-face and online coursework to meet the needs of working adult students.

Q: How does the cohort format work?
A: Cohorts are admitted in the summer and members of the cohort are required to maintain continuous enrollment--summer, fall, and spring--to progress through the program and begin the dissertation process in year two. The time to complete the program, allowing for variations in students’ choice of research topic and design, enables students to complete the degree in three to four years with up to six years, if needed, due to life circumstances.

Q: How many credits do I have to take each semester?
A: Students register for 6-10 credits each semester or approximately 20 credits a year--summer, fall and spring semesters.

Q: Are there comprehensive examinations?
A: Rather than a comprehensive examination at the end of coursework, there are formative assessments throughout the program designed to advance students’ scholarship through the development of the components of the dissertation proposal. This enables students to begin the third year of the program with their dissertation proposal under development. After the dissertation proposal is fully developed, a proposal defense is held. The proposal defense enables students to obtain feedback on their proposed dissertation research prior to submitting an application to Cabrini’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) for approval to begin the study.

Q: How will I know all the procedures and requirements of the program if I am accepted?
A: Accepted students will register for Dissertation Seminar I for 1 credit during the first semester of the program. This seminar engages students in an orientation to doctoral level work, which includes the standards for research and writing, as well as the requirements of the program at Cabrini. Each accepted student will have a faculty advisor and the Coordinator of the Doctoral Program guides all students throughout the program--from admission to graduation. Each student will also receive a Doctoral Student Handbook, which is updated annually, with current information on program requirements and guidelines for the dissertation.

Q: What if I need learning support?
A: Cabrini University is committed to offering support and appropriate accommodations to ensure equal educational opportunities for students who meet the academic admissions requirements. University policy and the law require that students with documented disabilities, as defined by documentation requirements, receive reasonable accommodations in order to have the opportunity to participate fully in our educational programs. If a student wishes to have a documented disability certified by the University, he or she must follow the procedures for obtaining academic accommodations by voluntarily disclosure of the disability with the Disability Resource Center and provide the required documentation.

Program Contact

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EdD Fact Sheet 2020