

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP, MSED

The School Leadership Program prepares professionals in independent, public, and charter schools to inquire into their own practice and develop their identities as leaders, building confidence and excellence. Our integrated program of study focuses on the dynamics of instructional, organizational, public, and evidence-based leadership with coursework designed to help students draw connections between theory and practice by applying learning in school settings. We emphasize cross-cutting competencies, including habits of mind, intrapersonal/interpersonal growth, reflective practice, communication skills and professionalism. In a field where practitioners are frequently siloed within their schools, grade levels, and sectors, the master's in School Leadership Program brings together students representing a diverse array of public, charter, and independent schools—not only from across the region but also the nation.

For more information: <https://slp.gse.upenn.edu/>

Curriculum

Independent MSED Track ^{1,2}

Code	Title	Course Units
Required Courses		
EDSL 5010A	Sustainability In Schools	1
EDSL 5010B	Sustainability In Schools	0
EDSL 5020A	Leadership in Public, Independent & Parochial Schools	1
EDSL 5020B	Leadership in Public, Independent & Parochial Schools	0
EDSL 5030	Developing Instructional Leadership in Practice	1
EDSL 5040	Field Internship Seminar: Inquiring Into Organizational and Legal Dimensions of Principal Leadership	1
EDSL 5050	Aligning Fiscal, Human, and Community Resources in Support of the School's Instructional Mission	1
EDSL 5060	Instructional Leadership to Promote Learning	1
EDSL 5070A	Practitioner Research	1
EDSL 5070B	Practitioner Research	0
EDSL 5070C	Practitioner Research	0
EDSL 5080A	Teaming and Collaborative Leadership in Schools	1
EDSL 5080B	Teaming and Collaborative Leadership in Schools	0
EDSL 5080C	Teaming and Collaborative Leadership in Schools	0
EDSL 5090	Field Internship Seminar: Leadership for School Improvement	1
EDSL 5100A	Critical Issues in Education	1
EDSL 5100B	Critical Issues in Education	0
EDSL 5100C	Critical Issues in Education	0
Program Meetings		
1 weekend/month		

All-day Sat & Sun	
1 virtual class/month	
Focused Observations	
3 of 5 daylong visits	
Summer Master's Seminar	
2 weeks in July	
Internship Requirements	
240 Hours Under Head of School	
Capstone Projects	
Portfolio	
Practitioner Research Project	
Total Course Units	10

Public MSED Track ^{1,3}

Code	Title	Course Units
Required Courses		
EDSL 5010A	Sustainability In Schools	1
EDSL 5010B	Sustainability In Schools	0
EDSL 5020A	Leadership in Public, Independent & Parochial Schools	1
EDSL 5020B	Leadership in Public, Independent & Parochial Schools	0
EDSL 5030	Developing Instructional Leadership in Practice	1
EDSL 5040	Field Internship Seminar: Inquiring Into Organizational and Legal Dimensions of Principal Leadership	1
EDSL 5050	Aligning Fiscal, Human, and Community Resources in Support of the School's Instructional Mission	1
EDSL 5060	Instructional Leadership to Promote Learning	1
EDSL 5070A	Practitioner Research	1
EDSL 5070B	Practitioner Research	0
EDSL 5070C	Practitioner Research	0
EDSL 5080A	Teaming and Collaborative Leadership in Schools	1
EDSL 5080B	Teaming and Collaborative Leadership in Schools	0
EDSL 5080C	Teaming and Collaborative Leadership in Schools	0
EDSL 5090	Field Internship Seminar: Leadership for School Improvement	1
EDSL 5100A	Critical Issues in Education	1
EDSL 5100B	Critical Issues in Education	0
EDSL 5100C	Critical Issues in Education	0

Program Meetings	
1 weekend/month	
All-day Sat & Sun	
1 virtual class/month	
Focused Observations	
3 of 5 daylong visits	
Summer Master's Seminar	

2 weeks in July

Internship Requirements

360 Hours Under Principal

Capstone Projects

Portfolio

Practitioner Research Project

Total Course Units **10**

Required Milestone:

Master’s degree candidates must demonstrate thorough knowledge of the field of specialization by passing a comprehensive examination in their area of study. The examination/portfolio/thesis serves an educational and evaluative purpose through which students are expected to review and integrate what they have learned in their coursework and fieldwork. Comprehensive formats vary.

¹ The School Leadership Program is unable to provide immigration sponsorship for international students.

² To be admitted into this track, students must have several years professional experience in a school setting. Most often our students’ school experience comes from teaching in a classroom but special to the Independent School Track is the ability for those in admissions or development roles at private schools to participate in the program without having had prior classroom experience.

³ To be admitted into this track, students must either have at least three years teaching experience or two years teaching experience and be in a teaching position while completing the program.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2023 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.
