

Special Education Administration Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Cori and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Master of Education in Educational Leadership Special Education Administration emphasis. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Master of Education in Educational Leadership Special Education Administration will prepare students for careers as professional educators in leadership positions through lecture and experiential learning activities. This program is designed for those who want to become school administrators in elementary, secondary or postsecondary schools. This may include working teachers looking to move into leadership positions or students who wish to get in on the ground floor of an institution's administration upon graduation. This is a 45 credit hour program and can be completed in 2 years as a full-time student or up to eight years as a part-time student.

The Master of Education in Educational Leadership will allow students to obtain a Michigan Administrator Certificate so that they are eligible for building level leadership positions in K-12 school systems such as a Special Education Supervisor, or an Instructional Coordinator. Growth in this field is on average with other professions at about 4% by the year 2024.

Grand Valley admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

Admission to this program requires that candidates submit three professional or academic recommendations and have a grade point average of 3.0 or better for the last 60 credits of undergraduate coursework. A prior master's degree from a regionally accredited institution will be accepted in lieu of the minimum grade point average.

More program details as well as the online application can be found on the Educational Leadership website at gvsu.edu/grad/edadmin.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

As I mentioned, the Master of Education in Educational Leadership Special Education Administration program at GVSU is a 45 credit hour program. The special education administration emphasis is known for its comprehensive approach to preparing students for the many facets of special education administration including leadership theory, programs and services, law, curriculum

and instruction, and evaluation. In this emphasis, students must complete 3 credit hours of social foundation courses, a 3 credit hour research foundation course, 24 credit hours of emphasis area courses, a 12 credit hour field experience, and a 3 credit hour capstone. For a complete listing of all courses, please visit gvsu.edu/grad/edadmin.

Additionally, the Master of Education in Educational Leadership Special Education Administration is distinguished for a number of reasons. GVSU's College of Education is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. The special education administration emphasis curriculum is also aligned with the content standards disseminated by the Council for Exceptional Children for special education administrators. This program offers evening, weekend, and summer classes with some course offered online making it easier for teachers and administrators to plan their schedules. The faculty in this program are leaders in their fields, combining the philosophy of education with the students' needs as practitioners.

That is just a snapshot of the Master of Education in Educational Leadership Special Education Administration emphasis graduate program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Cindi Smith at smithci@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.