

Educational Leadership Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie 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 graduate program. 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 will prepare students for careers as professional educators in leadership positions through inquiry, project, and case-based lecture and lab courses. This program is designed for those who want to become school administrators in elementary, secondary, or postsecondary schools. These individuals 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 33-credit hour program and can be completed in 2 years as a full-time student or 3-4 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 an Assistant Principal, Principal, Athletic Director, Instructional Coordinator, Dean of Students, or Dean of Faculty. Growth in this field is on average with other professions at about 4% by the year of 2024.

Standard 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 an official transcript from your baccalaureate degree granting institution, 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.

In addition, admission to this program requires that candidates submit one professional or academic recommendation letter as well as a grade point average of 3.0 or better for the last 60 credits of undergraduate coursework. The graduate program director will review and consider applicants with a GPA below 3.0 based on circumstances described in the application. 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, www.gvsu.edu/acad/education-educational-leadership-med.htm.

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 www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The Master of Education in Educational Leadership program at GVSU is a 33-credit hour program. Students are given the choice between two different emphasis areas in this program: educational leadership and special education administration. The educational leadership emphasis is

performance-oriented and focuses on research, theory, and practice in areas such as planning and developing curriculum, employee supervision, school improvement, school law, and more. In the educational leadership emphasis, students will complete 3 credit hours of social foundation courses, 18 credit hours of emphasis area courses, a 3-credit hour practicum experience, a 3-credit hour administrative internship, a 3-credit hour research foundation course, and a 3-credit hour capstone experience. 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 more. 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 www.gvsu.edu/acad/education-educational-leadership-med.htm

The Master of Education in Educational Leadership is distinguished for a number of reasons. GVSU's College of Education is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. In addition, the special education administration emphasis has curriculum that is aligned with the content standards disseminated by the Council for Exceptional Children for special education administrators. This program offers multiple delivery formats including hybrid, online synchronous, online asynchronous, and hybrid-hyflex. The classes are scheduled on weeknights and Saturdays. Class meeting times range from 3 to 7 hours per meeting. The delivery formats and multiple locations offered make it convenient for practicing teachers and administrators to plan their schedules. The faculty in this program have been practitioners in the field and focus the learning in the courses on theory to practice.

Thank you for listening to our podcast outlining the Master of Education in Educational Leadership graduate program at Grand Valley State University. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Rick Vandermolen at vanderri@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time, and we hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU.