



The Urban Education Leadership EdD program is designed for teachers and school leaders who aspire to transform urban schools into effective learning environments for students and teachers. The program's theory of change is based on the belief that the principal is most effective as the leader of school change when s/he engages key individuals in leadership roles, develops strong, trusting relationships, inspires a culture with high aspirations and expectations, creates sustainable conditions for common action, and builds professional communities focused on improving adult and student learning. This intensive cohort program prepares system and school leaders committed to a sustained immersion in the theory and practice of addressing the challenges of urban education. Performance outcomes, designed in collaboration with transformative principals from Chicago Public Schools, are achieved through an integration of doctoral course work and supervised practicum experiences. Candidates assume school or system leadership roles early in the program and then continue to receive coaching support.

PROGRAM FACULTY

- Steve Tozer**, Professor and Program Coordinator, PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Nancy Carter-Hill**, Field Supervision, EdD, Loyola University
- Shelby Cosner**, Assistant Professor, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Susan Kurland**, Field Supervision, PhD, Loyola University
- Beverly LaCoste**, Field Supervision, ABD, Loyola University
- Fausto Lopez**, Field Supervision, MS Equivalent, Central University, Quito, Ecuador
- Peter Martinez**, Director of Field Supervision, BS, Loyola University
- Kathleen Mayer**, Field Supervision, EdD, Loyola University
- David Mayrowetz**, Assistant Professor, EdD, Rutgers University
- William Melsheimer**, Field Supervision, MS, Northern Illinois University
- Karen Morris**, Field Supervision, MEd, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Carol Myford**, Associate Professor, PhD, University of Chicago
- Mark Smylie**, Professor, PhD, Vanderbilt University
- Ben Superfine**, Assistant Professor, PhD and JD, University of Michigan
- William Teale**, Professor, EdD, University of Virginia
- Sam Whalen**, Visiting Director of Research, PhD, University of Chicago
- Ward Weldon**, Associate Professor, PhD, Northwestern University
- Paul Zavitkovsky**, Field Supervision and Data Analysis, CAS, Harvard University

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Urban Education Leadership EdD program requires 80 to 92 credit hours, including course work covering research, policy, and practice. Course work is integrated with field experiences to develop leadership capacities consistent with the EdD.

CERTIFICATIONS

The program allows students to choose among three strands leading to a doctoral degree: the Illinois Type 75 general administrative certification (preparation for the school principalship), the Illinois Superintendent Endorsement, or advanced leadership development tailored to school-building or system-level positions for those already holding the Type 75 Certificate.

SPECIAL PROGRAM FEATURES

- A highly selective admissions process
- Full-time, paid administrative residency for all candidates
- Academically rigorous program
- Course work grounded in practice

RESULTS

UIC graduates are among the most highly sought after administrators by local school councils in Chicago Public Schools. Of candidates who finish the academic-year residency in good standing, 96% have obtained administrative positions—most of them as principals—in Chicago schools. UIC-led schools are outperforming comparable CPS schools in measures of student performance and school climate and culture.

CONTACT INFO

Questions about the program can be e-mailed to eddprog@uic.edu.

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