

PRINCIPAL CERTIFICATE

Program Overview

The Principal certificate in Educational Leadership is a sequence option designed for candidates who aspire to obtain school leadership positions as a director, assistant principal or principal.

Curriculum Overview

Candidates have completed a master's degree and hold New Jersey certification as a supervisor. A second course in leadership (EDAD 592) is required of candidates who have previously taken only one course in a state-approved supervisory certification sequence. Candidates will complete a year-long (300 hours) internship EDAD 591 and EDAD 592 along with a "Capstone School Improvement/Change Project."

The frameworks for the program have been established to meet preparatory requirements as established in the New Jersey Administrative Code (6A:9-12.5) as well as the challenges, responsibilities, and opportunities inherent in educational leadership.

Certificate Offered

- Principal Certificate

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Program Website: Principal Certificate (<http://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-liberal-arts-education-sciences/school-of-education/graduate-programs/leadership-programs/graduate-programs-school-leaders/principal-certificate/>)

Associated Department: Department of Graduate Education, Leadership, and Counseling (<http://www.rider.edu/academics/colleges-schools/college-liberal-arts-education-sciences/school-of-education/graduate-programs/leadership-programs/>)

Related Programs

- M.A. in Education Leadership (<http://catalog.rider.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/education/programs-certificates/educational-leadership/>)
- M.A. Teacher Leadership (<http://catalog.rider.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/education/programs-certificates/teacher-leadership-ma/>)
- Supervisor of Instruction Certificate (<http://catalog.rider.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/education/programs-certificates/supervisor-certificate/>)

Principal Certificate Requirements

(21 Credits)

Code	Title	Credits
EDAD 501	Educational Leadership and Organizational Theory	3
EDAD 507	Education and the Law	3
EDAD 511	Group Process in Supervision for Creative Change and Collaboration in Schools	3
EDAD 514	School Finance and Fiscal Management	3

EDAD 521	Using Research Strategies and Analysis of Data to Make Decisions in Schools	3
EDAD 591	Seminar/Practicum in Educational Leadership/Supervision	3
EDAD 592	Seminar/Practicum in Educational Leadership/Supervision	3
Total Credits		21

Courses and Descriptions

EDAD 501 Educational Leadership and Organizational Theory 3 Credits

This introductory course will provide leadership candidates with a framework for understanding the complexity of organizational behavior in an educational setting. Theories and issues in the technical core of teaching and learning, educational governance, leadership, communication patterns, decision-making, school culture, organizational problem solving and school change will be presented, examined and applied through a series of case studies and student initiated inquiry/research projects and presentations. Students will demonstrate course understandings through actual classroom and school applications that are referenced to state and national standards.

EDAD 507 Education and the Law 3 Credits

This course will address legal issues and requirements confronting educational leaders in school settings. Students will be introduced to varied legal requirements that pertain to educational settings. Legal concepts and issues, and policies and procedures relating to students, parents, teachers and administrators, the board of education, and the community will be introduced and examined. Some of the topics referenced will include: regulations and the key concepts in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act; No Child Left Behind legislation; church-state issues; free-speech rights of students, teachers and extracurricular groups; curriculum development and implementation; rules governing student and staff conduct; creating and maintaining a safe school environment; child abuse; search and seizure procedures; affirmative action requirements; and, due process procedures. Students will demonstrate course understandings through actual classroom and school applications that are referenced to state adopted core curriculum content standards, professional development standards and national school leadership standards.

EDAD 511 Group Process in Supervision for Creative Change and Collaboration in Schools 3 Credits

This course will apply theory and research to the supervisory function of developing group capacity in educational settings. Students will identify group process "best practices" to be modeled by educational leaders. Candidates will develop and refine techniques, strategies, and personal skills facilitating the development of helping and caring relationships with faculty and staff, while promoting interactive communication with stakeholders concerned with improving teaching and learning. Students will demonstrate effective supervisory behaviors in class sessions and simulations that represent daily challenges and opportunities present in school settings. Students will demonstrate course understandings through actual classroom and school applications that are referenced to state adopted core curriculum content standards, professional development standards and national school leadership standards.

Prerequisite(s): EDAD 505.

EDAD 514 School Finance and Fiscal Management 3 Credits

This course will examine the principles and court decisions involved in shaping the legal framework of school finance. Students will examine the historical spending patterns of a school district budget and develop new budget proposals using "generally accepted accounting procedures" and the appropriate state budgeting codes. Students will study school budgeting procedures as a tool for program and school improvement. The class will examine the financial implications associated with site-based management models and whole school reform. Legislation pertaining to the financing of short and long term debt will be examined. Students will use technology to gather data; identify non-tax based resources; create presentations for specific audiences; and, work with models of data driven indicators to examine issues of equity, efficiencies and resource deployment. Students will demonstrate course understandings through actual classroom and school applications that are referenced to state adopted core curriculum content standards, professional development standards and national school leadership standards.

Prerequisite(s): EDAD 501.

EDAD 521 Using Research Strategies and Analysis of Data to Make Decisions in Schools 3 Credits

This course will develop the skills needed by educational leaders at all levels to interpret, use, and apply statistical concepts and research methodologies in critical administrative and supervisory functions. Statistical methodology will be used to further understanding of different research strategies. Students will interpret data and make informed decisions regarding the frameworks, implementation, and evaluation of instructional programs and practices designed to improve teaching and learning in school, district, and national settings. Course activities and field work will include: scenario and case study analyses; the use of critical friends' discussion groups; the application and use of different technologies and software programs; and, the identification of appropriate problem solving and resolution strategies. Students will demonstrate course understandings through actual classroom and school applications that are referenced to state adopted core curriculum content standards, professional development standards and national school leadership standards.

Prerequisite(s): EDAD 501 and EDAD 514.

EDAD 591 Seminar/Practicum in Educational Leadership/Supervision 3 Credits

This is the first of two "capstone" internship courses for candidates in the leadership program in educational administration. The course meets New Jersey Department of Education requirements for an extended administrative internship in the schools. This course is taken in the fall semester and is followed in the spring semester with EDAD 592. After analysis of leadership strengths, based on a self-assessment completed by the candidate, specific internship experiences will be cooperatively planned by the candidate, site-based mentor, and instructor. The capstone internship will build on strengths, develop growth experiences, be substantial and sustained, and be ethically informed. Students will cooperatively evaluate and problem-solve internship experiences, assess leadership performance from best-practice perspectives, finalize the development of a leadership platform statement, review and discuss topics and scenarios derived from readings and other resources, engage in simulations and case analyses, and interact with students in other graduate programs. Presentations by practicing administrators and other school personnel will provide understanding of the patterns of interaction that occur among different leadership positions in educational institutions. Students will demonstrate course understandings through actual classroom and school applications that are referenced to state adopted core curriculum content standards, professional development standards and national school leadership standards. Enrollment by permission of Instructor.

EDAD 592 Seminar/Practicum in Educational Leadership/Supervision 3 Credits

This is the second of the "capstone" internship course sequence that coincides with the school-year calendar and is taken during the spring semester. In combination with EDAD 591, the course meets New Jersey Department of Education requirements for an extended administrative internship in the schools. Students will continue pursuing field-based internship projects initiated in EDAD 591 in collaboration with a site mentor and the course instructor. Students will demonstrate course understandings through actual classroom and school applications that are referenced to state adopted core curriculum content standards, professional development standards and national school leadership standards. Enrollment by permission of instructor.

Prerequisite(s): EDAD 591.