



Education Specialist Program Information

Program Overview

The WSC Education Specialist Program (Ed.S.) entails 30-credit hours of online or independent-study course work, all of which must be completed within a 10-year time frame. The program standards, conceptual framework, and outcomes are aligned with requirements contained in Nebraska Department of Education Rules 21 and 24, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), and the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL). Students who complete the Ed.S. degree may be certified to work as a school administrator at any level in a PK-12 school system.

Admission

- **Step 1: Apply Online.** The first step is to apply for admission to graduate studies at Wayne State College. This can be done online here. If you have any further questions about getting admitted to graduate studies at Wayne State College, contact the WSC Admissions Office at 1-800-228-9972 (x7234). Officials there will guide the student through the admissions process.
- **Step 2:** Submit an essay on "Why I am Interested in Becoming a School Superintendent" to the Dean of the School of Education and Counseling, Wayne State College, Wayne, NE 68787. The essay should be completed as a Microsoft Word Document, double-spaced, and in 12-point font. It will be evaluated on organization, content, and mechanics and grammar using a four-point rubric: 1 = not acceptable; 2 = acceptable; 3 = target; 4 = exemplary. Be sure to address the following items:
 - Describe your background.
 - How did your interest in school administration evolve?
 - What leadership experiences have you had to this point in your career?
 - What personal characteristics and professional skills do you possess that would contribute to your potential for becoming an effective school superintendent?
 - Other than your graduate program of study, how do you plan to prepare yourself for a role in school district leadership?
- **Step 3:** Further, the applicant will need to select **three** current or former school administrators as references. Ask each of these school administrators to fill out [this form](#) and email it to Brook Jech (contact information on the bottom of the form).

All application materials must be received and on file in the Dean's Office, before the student will be allowed to progress beyond the first 12-credit hours taken at WSC.

[Note: This application process need not be repeated for those students who have completed a Master’s-level degree or endorsement program at WSC under the new procedures, which were initiated in the fall of 2012.]

[Directions on How to Register for Classes](#)

Transfer Credits

Graduate credit from other accredited higher education institutions may be accepted into the program, assuming that (a) minimum course grade of B, (b) the course work was not a part of another graduate degree, (c) the course or courses are an appropriate substitute for courses in the WSC Education Specialist Program, and (d) the course work will fit into the 10-year time frame. Transfer credits are limited to 18 hours from other Nebraska State Colleges or Universities and nine hours from other graduate institutions.

Progress Interview

After the completion of at least 15 program hours, the student’s advisor and one other faculty member in school administration will conduct an interview to assess student progress and garner feedback on the relevancy of the program. If the student is within easy driving distance of the WSC campus, the interview will be in person. If not, the interview will be conducted via an online video conference (e.g. Zoom or Skype). A faculty determination will be made using the progress interview rubric regarding the candidate’s suitability to continue in the school administration program.

Course Rotation (Subject to Change)

EDU 700	The Superintendency	Fall 2020/2022
EDU 704	School Law for Administrators	June 2020/2022
EDU 705	Problem Resolution in Educational Organizations	Spring 2021/2023
EDU 710	School Improvement Planning	Fall 2019/2021
EDU 725	Educational Facility Planning	July 2021/2023
EDU 730	Human Resources Administration	June 2021/2023
EDU 740	Educational Finance and Business Management	July 2021/2023
EDU 750	School and Community Relations	June 2020/2022
EDU 760	Information Management	Spring 2020/2022
EDU 786	Advanced Internship, Offered every semester (must be taken within the last nine hours on the program)	

Total = 30 credit hours

Application for Graduation

Students pursuing degrees must file an [Application for Graduation](#) no later than the end of the second week of the semester in which they intend to graduate. Commencing with the date of the first course registration, all requirements for the degree must be met within 10 calendar years. Courses can be no more than 10 years old at the time of graduation. Students completing degrees may participate in commencement ceremonies, which are held in May and December.

Iowa Students

Iowa students have the option of substituting the Iowa School Finance Series (ISFLC) for Wayne State's EDU 740, Educational Finance and Business Management. Graduate credit is offered through Drake, Iowa State University, the University of Iowa, and Northern Iowa University. Students pursuing the ISFLC must have official transcripts sent to Brook Jech indicating three graduate credits earned with a grade of "B" or higher. In addition, Iowa students will need to complete a course in the administration of special education. WSC offers SPD 611 online in the July summer session, which meets Iowa certification requirements, and this course may be used as an elective.

Certification

Upon degree completion, the student should contact WSC Certification Officer Phyllis Spethman (402-375-7373) to process the additional administrative endorsement level to his or her teaching certificate. The Nebraska Department of Education requires successful completion of the Praxis II School Superintendent Assessment (6021). Our program of study is designed to prepare you for such a test, but performance on that test may depend on many issues beyond the control of our department, including but not limited to prior professional educational knowledge, teaching and administrative experiences, test taking skills, and the candidate's retention of course material. Scores must be submitted to Wayne State College. Students should visit the [Praxis Series website](#) at www.ets.org to learn more about registering for and completing this exam.

General and Graduate Catalog

A current [General and Graduate Catalog](#) provides detailed information on all college programs and services.

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