2026-27 Academic Year

WAYNE STATE COLLEGE

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Education Specialist (Ed.S.)

The Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in School Administration prepares experienced educators for district-level leadership roles, including eligibility for the Superintendent endorsement, while requiring less time and cost than a doctoral degree. Applicants must have completed a 36-credit master's degree or endorsement program in School Administration for Principal. This advanced degree allows educators to deepen their expertise in educational leadership, strengthen administrative skills, and advance professional credentials.

Designed for working professionals, the online Ed.S. program allows students to continue their careers while balancing professional and personal responsibilities. Requiring 30 credit hours, the Ed.S. offers a streamlined alternative to an Ed.D. or Ph.D., which often requires 60–90 credits. The degree may also serve as a pathway to doctoral study, as some credits may be transferable. Wayne State College's online education programs are consistently recognized for their value, quality, and graduate outcomes.

fast facts

No entrance exams required

Credit hours: 30

Cost per credit hour: $427.45 total *(includes $261.90 tuition + $165.55 fees)*

Degree offered: Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in School Administration/Educational Leadership

Delivery method: Online

Department: Educational Foundations and Leadership

School: Education and Behavioral Sciences

focus on results

Skills Learned

- District-level educational leadership
- School law and policy compliance
- Strategic problem solving
- School improvement planning and change management
- Human resources and labor relations
- School finance, budgeting, and fiscal oversight
- Facilities planning and capital management
- Community relations and public engagement

Possible Careers

- School superintendent
- Assistant or associate superintendent
- District administrator or executive director
- Director of special education or student services
- Chief academic officer
- Financial or facilities director
- Educational leadership consultant

Types of Employers

- Public school districts
- Private school systems
- Educational service units (ESUs)
- Charter school networks
- State departments of education
- Special education agencies
- Education consulting firms
- Postsecondary or technical education institutions
- Education-focused non-profits

recognized for excellence

Wayne State College's School Administration programs are offered fully online as part of our nationally recognized graduate programs, combining affordability, flexibility, and leadership-focused curriculum for educational administrators.

2025 college factual Top Ranked Secondary School Administration BEST

Best College for School Administration
Wayne State was recognized by College Factual as having the best School Administration program in Nebraska and No. 6 overall in the U.S. based on program quality, graduate success, low student debt, and other factors.

CAEP ACCREDITED PROVIDER

Accredited by CAEP
WSC's educator preparation programs are nationally accredited by CAEP, providing assurance that our programs meet rigorous standards of excellence.

Program courses

2026-27 Academic Year

The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

School Administration (Ed.S.) program requirements (30 credit hours)

A minimum overall GPA of 3.2 must be achieved in the Education Specialist (Ed.S.) program. Transfer courses must have occurred in a degree program after completing the principal endorsement. While course substitutions are rare due to the program's specific content for the Superintendency, exceptions may be considered. A course receiving an S/NC grade cannot be used in the Ed.S. degree program.

- EDU 700 The Superintendency 3
- EDU 704 School Law for Administrators 3
- EDU 705 Problem Resolution in Educational Organizations 3
- EDU 710 School Improvement Planning 3
- EDU 721 Education Program Orientation 0
- EDU 725 Educational Facilities Planning 3
- EDU 730 Human Resources Administration 3
- EDU 740 Business Management 3
- EDU 745 School Finance and Budgeting 3
- EDU 750 School and Community Relations 3
- EDU 786 Advanced Internship in Educational Leadership 3

questions? contact:

Michael Sieh, Ph.D.
Graduate Facilitator for the School Administration Programs and Associate Professor of Education
Benthack Hall, 205
402-375-7185
misieh1@wsc.edu

Kim Acuña, Ed.D.
Dean of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Benthack Hall, 111B
402-375-7390
kyacuna1@wsc.edu

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