Ed.D. in Leadership

We look forward to supporting you through the application process. You can find application support resources here. The online application includes additional guidance, but this document provides information to help make your application as strong as possible. The Educational Leadership faculty engage in a holistic review process and closely review each of the components below.

Important Dates: The Application system opens September 1, 2022

    February 1, 2023: Online Application deadline

    February 15, 2023: Supporting materials deadline

    Note: We encourage applicants to submit *all* materials by Feb. 1. Some materials, however, may take longer (e.g., transcripts, letters of recommendation). All materials must be submitted by Feb. 15.

Step 1: **Online application.** Create your online graduate application account. Below Graduate Programs, choose "2023 Applications" then "Application for all other graduate programs" here: https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/

Step 2: **Statement of Intent/Writing Sample.** Applicants must submit **two required writing samples in one single file**. Each writing sample should be *no more than two pages single spaced* and must respond directly to the prompts below. Submit both statements in a single document and label each statement within the document with the following headers. Upload the document in your online application under "Statement of Intent":

- *Statement of Intent.* Describe your leadership pathway and how VCU's EdD in Leadership will contribute to your career and to your desired areas of impact. What leadership skills do you hope to build, and why do you think this program can support your learning goals?
- *Writing Sample/Leadership Argument*. Write an essay responding to the following question: When leading for diversity, equity, and inclusion, what strategies are most impactful and why?

Step 3: **Letters of Recommendation.** The system has an area for you to submit the names and emails of **three letters of recommendation from professional or academic contacts**. Select a "Due Date" anytime before February 15. Use the "Notes" area to share what you would like your references to highlight to support your statement of intent or other areas of your application.

Step 4: **Transcripts.** You can upload PDF copies of your *unofficial* transcripts for the review/decision process. You will be required to submit *official academic transcripts from all attended institutions before* enrollment. If you have completed another program at VCU and have unofficial copies, please upload these to expedite the process. Admissions can manually pull your transcripts, but it takes time. Please send your official transcripts to one of the following addresses:

    E-Transcripts: gradmail@vcu.edu

    Mail: VCU Office of Graduate Admissions, Box 843051, Richmond, Virginia 23284-3051

Step 5: **Testing Requirement.** There is NO testing requirement. You may choose to submit a GRE or MAT score to support your application, but it is not required. Testing resource is here.

Step 6: **Supplemental Questions Section.** Please rank-order your preferred cohort (Higher Education, K12, or General Leadership) and your preferred learning modality (online or face-to-face).

Note: A minimum number of students is required to administer a given cohort or modality.

Please consider the following schedule as you determine whether the EdD program is a good fit for your needs and schedule:

- *All students* must attend an in-person residency on VCU's Monroe Park campus in the first and second summer of the three-year program. The residency will start in the afternoon on the first day, and continue all-day for subsequent days. Please plan accordingly so you can attend in-person:
  - Summer 1 Residency: June 22-24, 2023
  - Summer 2 Residency: July 26-27, 2024
- *Online classes* meet synchronously online for 1-1.5 hours on Wednesdays between 5 and 8 pm and also include asynchronous work to be completed during other designated timeframes within the semester.
- *Face-to-face classes* meet on the Monroe Park Campus:
  - Five full-day Saturdays a semester and
  - Weekly on Thursday evenings starting between 4 and 6 pm and lasting 2-2.5 hours.
  - Plan for all F2F sessions to be on campus, though some courses use a more hybrid format by including both F2F classes and online meetings/work.

Step 7: **Professional CV or Resume.** Include institutions attended, degrees awarded and areas of expertise, work history and experience, professional/community service involvement, and any applicable awards and honors. Your resume or CV should *highlight how you meet the required minimum of three years of leadership experience*. Your writing sample may be used to provide additional context if needed.

Step 8: **Submit Application Fee and Click "Submit."** Please submit the application fee in order to submit your application.

Step 9: **Receiving and accepting your admissions decision**: You will receive an email with an admissions recommendation from the Program Coordinator. Your official admissions decision will come from VCU graduate admissions. Upon receipt of the *official letter from VCU*, you must email respondgrad@vcu.edu to confirm your acceptance into the program. This will allow the system to create a formal account that will allow you to register.

Step 10: If admitted, review the Accepted Graduate Student Checklist for next steps. as you transition to VCU.

Please contact us at with any questions throughout the process: soeinfo@vcu.edu and/or soeogs@vcu.edu