EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Graduate Study in Educational Leadership

Preparing Educators With A Purpose

School administration in the 21st century is complex, with increasing state and federal expectations, budget challenges and demographic shifts. The job requires positive and perceptive leaders who can manage a variety of internal constituents while building productive partnerships in the community.

St. Bonaventure University’s educational leadership graduate programs can help you become this leader. The SBL, MSED and SDL programs offer relevant coursework (aligned with state standards) from experienced faculty, and a hybrid (mostly online) format that allows for great flexibility but also provides you with a cohort/peer group with which to connect and collaborate.

Here’s an additional benefit of this hybrid model: it allows students from an expanded area to take the program, which means that your educational leadership cohort will likely include educators from all types of schools – rural, urban, suburban, public, private, parochial and charter. This diversity of perspective enhances the student experience.

Graduates of the Educational Leadership programs will possess knowledge to promote a positive school culture, provide an effective instructional program and design comprehensive professional development plans for staff while collaborating with families and responding to diverse community interests and needs within the larger political, social, economic, legal and cultural contexts.

St. Bonaventure offers three graduate educational leadership programs:
- School Building Leader
- MSED in Educational Leadership
- School District Leader
School Building Leader (SBL) Certification

SBL certification is designed for those wishing to become effective school principles at the elementary or secondary level. Coursework includes preparation in curriculum development, school finance and law, supervision, leadership and school-community relations.

The SBL requires 24 credit hours and can be completed in just four semesters (with no summer classes). A master’s degree and teacher or other school personnel certification and experience for admission is recommended.

MSED in Education Leadership

This degree includes all the SBL coursework, plus two additional courses. While the MSED is not required for SBL certification, many students opt to complete it as the MSED may enhance portability of the credential to other states. Students that have already taken the two additional courses may use SDL coursework to fulfill this requirement.

The MSED requires 30 credit hours and four semesters with (typically) one summer to complete. A master’s degree and teaching or other school personnel certification and experience are generally required for admission.

School District Leader (SDL) Certification

The School District Leader certificate program is designed for candidates who want to become superintendents or administrators at the district level. The certificate program includes coursework in negotiation, superintendency and central office leadership.

The SDL program consists of 12 credits beyond the SBL. Students must have a master’s degree and teacher or other school personnel certification and experience for admission. SBL certification is recommended.

The SBL/MSED and SDL programs provide the coursework and practical experiences required to sit for the relevant state exams.
A Unique and Convenient Hybrid Learning Format

The educational leadership graduate programs at St. Bonaventure are taught in a convenient hybrid format. Most of your coursework will be completed online with three scheduled in-person Saturday classes on campus per semester. These Saturday sessions will alternate by semester between the St. Bonaventure Buffalo Center (fall) and our main campus in Olean (spring).

Educators With A Purpose

At St. Bonaventure, our educational leadership programs are based on strict adherence to the (Educational Leadership Constituent Council) ELCC standards for administrative competencies. These national standards prepare you for the New York State administrative certification exams. Our Franciscan values of peace, respect and individual dignity prepare educators with a purpose.

Most of your professors will be full-time St. Bonaventure faculty, professionals with varied experiences and significant experience. Carefully chosen part-time faculty supplement their efforts.

Earning A Master’s Degree Is Hard Work

Really hard work. But we know you can do it! And to help you along the way, we make a few small promises that can make a big difference:

- Small classes = great friendships and professional contacts
- Easy parking
- No GRE required
- Financial aid available

Graduate Admissions:
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gadsch@sbu.edu

Office of Financial Aid:
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finaid@sbu.edu