Program Overview
This is a school district leader certification program only and prepares students for administrative leadership at the school district level. It is for school building leaders/administrators seeking positions as school district level administrators. Twelve credit hours are required for New York. The program provides extended research-based knowledge in areas such as negotiations, leadership for the superintendency, and central office leadership.

Hybrid Format
The Advanced Certificate in School District Leadership (SDL) is offered in a hybrid format. SDL students will meet for three or four class sessions each semester, completing most of their coursework online. The Saturday classes alternate between SBU’s main campus in Olean and the Buffalo Center in Hamburg.

Information about Certification
After completing SBU’s 12-credit program, the candidate is eligible to take the New York State SBL Administrator examination. Students may seek administration certification upon successful completion of the state examination.

Admission Requirements*
Admission to this degree program is based on:
1. Teaching or Counseling certification
2. K-12 school experience (3 years)
3. Official transcripts of all prior college work (3.00 GPA on a 4.00 scale)
4. Interview
5. Writing sample
6. Two letters of recommendation (at least one from principal or superintendent)

*State law requires SBU to collect immunization records from students taking 6 or more credit hours in any semester.

Certification Requirements* (12 credits)
EDL 620** Superintendency
EDL 630** Central Office Leadership
EDL 640** Leadership in Personnel Administration
EDL 698A** Practicum (1 credit)
EDL 698B** Internship (2 credits)
EDL 698C Continuing Supervision (0 credits)
EDUC 599K Culturally Diverse Experience (0 credits)

*For course descriptions, go to www.sbu.edu/graduate and click on the Graduate Catalog link on the lower right.
**Required courses for NY-SDL

Field Experiences
For this certification, students are expected to complete two competency-based field experiences in district office settings.

The first field experience is the EDL 698A Practicum. The Practicum requires 90 clock hours during one semester. A student may begin the Practicum once the first two district level educational leadership courses are completed.

The second field experience is the EDL 698B Internship. It requires 90 clock hours during a different semester than the Practicum. A student may begin the Internship after completing three district level educational leadership courses.

Students who are teaching in K-12 school settings may be eligible to complete their field experiences in their own school districts. This should be discussed with the advisor early in the program so that appropriate arrangements can be coordinated. Students must complete at least six (6) course credits through St. Bonaventure University to be eligible for St. Bonaventure University field experience supervision.

Exit Criteria
1. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
2. Successful completion of the Practicum and Internship
3. Submission of a satisfactory electronic portfolio showing professional growth and accomplishments during the coursework and field experiences