Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction

Introduction

The Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Curriculum and Instruction prepares graduates for leadership positions working with teachers and other education professionals in a variety of settings that may include school districts, colleges and universities, state and federal education agencies, and educational companies. The Ed.D. program places an emphasis on preparing leaders who can translate theory and research into practice and who can solve practical problems in an educational context. Graduates are prepared to be leaders in the profession by effectively fulfilling responsibilities in the areas of teaching, research, and service. The Ed.D. is a cohort program that starts each fall semester, with required courses to help graduates achieve these goals. Students work with an advisor and committee members to choose electives based on individual career goals.

Graduate Admission to the School of Education

Graduate programs in education are open to students with acceptable baccalaureate and graduate degrees whose academic records indicate that they can do successful work at the graduate level. Regular admission requires a grade-point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Individual departments may require additional information and may have more stringent admission and retention requirements.

Some departments may offer special provisional admission categories to students who may not qualify under traditional admission criteria. Departments that offer provisional admission require a grade-point average of at least 2.5. Applicants must provide evidence of ability to work successfully at the graduate level, including experience in and commitment to the profession. Exceptions to established policies must be sought individually by petition to the Graduate Division of the School of Education.

See Admission in the Graduate Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies) section of the online catalog for more information.

Each department in the School of Education sets its own application deadlines. Prospective graduate students should contact their departments for more information.

Graduate Admission to the Department of Curriculum and Teaching

In addition to general requirements for admission to graduate study in the School of Education, doctoral programs in Curriculum and Instruction require completion of appropriate undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Materials describing all Curriculum and Instruction programs may be obtained from the department (http://ct.soee.ku.edu).

The deadline for the Ed.D application (domestic and international) is July 1 for the fall semester cohort.

Admission to the Doctor of Education, Curriculum and Instruction Program (Domestic Applicants)

The following materials must be submitted:

- A completed online graduate application (http://www.graduate.ku.edu/application-process).
- 1 official transcript of all previous undergraduate and graduate credit. Doctoral applicants must have earned a Master's degree or equivalent with at least a 3.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores (minimum scores of 153 on the Verbal, 144 on the Quantitative, and 4.0 on the General Analytical Writing sections). The scores must be no older than five years prior to the application term. Official scores are required, sent from the testing institution directly to the Office of Graduate Studies.
- A statement of career goals addressing how this degree will help meet professional aspirations and areas of interest in curriculum and instruction.
- 3 letters of recommendation; the master's advisor is appropriate to include. Each letter should be attached to the online recommendation form when it is submitted.
- Writing sample: an article, paper or other composition originally written by the applicant. An appropriate length is 8 to 10 pages.
- A vita or resume.

Admission to the Doctor of Education, Curriculum and Instruction Program (International Applicants)

The following materials must be submitted:

- A completed International Student online graduate application (http://www.graduate.ku.edu/application-process).
- 2 official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate credit including degree conferral (1 in the original language and 1 in English translation). Doctoral applicants must have earned a Master's degree or equivalent with at least a 3.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale. Applicants who graduated from a college or university in China must also include official Chinese and English versions of their diplomas and certificates.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores (minimum scores of 153 on the Verbal, 144 on the Quantitative, and 4.0 on the General Analytical Writing sections). The scores must be no older than five years prior to the application term. Official scores are required, sent from the testing institution directly to the Office of Graduate Studies.
- A statement of career goals addressing how this degree will help meet professional aspirations and areas of interest in curriculum and instruction.
- 3 letters of recommendation; the master's advisor is appropriate to include. Each letter should be attached to the online recommendation form when it is submitted.
- Writing sample: an article, paper or other composition originally written by the applicant. An appropriate length is 8 to 10 pages.
- A vita or resume.
- A statement of account balance from the applicant's sponsor's bank. This statement must be on bank stationery. There must also be a letter of support from his/her sponsor if the bank statement is not in the applicant's name.
- For students whose first language is not English, official scores on the TOEFL of at least 92 total (IBT) with subscale scores of at least 23 in all areas must be submitted for consideration of admission to the Curriculum and Teaching Department. The IELTS official score
is also accepted, with an overall score of at least 7.0, and no section score lower than 7.0. The TOEFL or IELTS scores must have been achieved not more than two years prior to the semester of first enrollment. TOEFL/IELTS scores are not required if the applicant provides official documentation of graduation with a baccalaureate degree (or higher) earned in residence from an accredited English-medium U.S. college or university or a college or university in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, English-speaking province of Canada, or an English-speaking Caribbean country, with instruction conducted in English.

Please note: Meeting minimum admission standards does not guarantee admission to the program.

Once the graduate application has been submitted online, send any application materials that cannot be uploaded with the online application to the department:

The University of Kansas  
Department of Curriculum and Teaching  
Joseph R. Pearson Hall  
1122 W. Campus Road, Room 321  
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101  
Contact us: ctdepartment@ku.edu

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Doctoral aspirants should develop a program plan at the first enrollment or promptly thereafter. The program plan must include:

• A minimum of 27 graduate credit hours in Curriculum and Instruction  
• A minimum of 9 graduate credit hours in Research Skills  
• Completion of the Responsible Conduct of Research requirement  
• Completion of a structured 3-credit-hour practicum in a supervised internship setting  
• Successful completion of written and oral comprehensive exams  
• A minimum of 12 credit hours of dissertation.

Detailed course information may be reviewed on the Curriculum and Instruction Ed.D. Requirements page (http://ct.soe.ku.edu/academics/ci/edd/requirements).

Although the courses and the research leading to the Ed.D. are necessarily specialized, the attainment of this degree should not be an isolated event in the enterprise of learning. A copy of this program should be filed with the Graduate Division of the School of Education.

Note: Contact your department or program for more information about research skills and responsible scholarship, and the current requirements for doctoral students. Current Lawrence and Edwards Campus policies on Doctoral Research Skills and Responsible Scholarship (https://documents.ku.edu/policies/Graduate_Studies/Research_Skills_and_Responsible_Scholarship.htm) are listed in the KU Policy Library.