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 non-profit organizations. 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 in prior degrees. Individual departments may require additional information and may have more stringent admission requirements.

Some departments may offer special provisional admission categories to students who may not qualify under regular 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.soe.ku.edu).

Deadlines for doctoral application are October 1 for early consideration of fall admission the following year, and March 15 for consideration of fall admission the same year.

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

The following materials must be submitted:

- A completed domestic 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. 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; a letter from the master’s advisor is appropriate to include. Each letter should be attached to the online recommendation form when it is submitted by the recommender.
- Writing sample: an article, paper or other composition originally written by the applicant. An appropriate length is 8 to 10 pages.
- A vitae or resume.

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

All application materials should be submitted online with the graduate application. If there are application materials that cannot be uploaded with the online application, they may be emailed or mailed 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

Contact us: cldepartment@ku.edu

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Doctoral aspirants should develop a program plan at the first enrollment or promptly thereafter. A copy of this program should be filed with the Graduate Division of the School of Education. 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 18 credit hours of dissertation, unless student successfully defends the dissertation earlier.

Detailed course information may be reviewed on the Curriculum and Instruction Ed.D. Program Curriculum [link](http://ct.ku.edu/academics/curriculum-instruction/doctorate/program-curriculum) page.

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. The aspirant for the Ed.D. is expected to be a well-educated person and should have acquired a broad base of general knowledge, both as preparation for more advanced work and as a means of knowing how curriculum and instruction is related to other fields of human thought.

**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 [link](https://documents.ku.edu/policies/Graduate_Studies/Research_Skills_and_Responsible_Scholarship.htm) are listed in the KU Policy Library.