Requirements for Superintendent Certification  
Division of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies  
College of Education  
University of Missouri – St. Louis

A superintendent certificate will be issued by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to applicants meeting the following requirements:

1. A permanent or professional Missouri certificate of license to teach  
2. A Masters Degree in Education Administration  
3. A recommendation from the designated certification official from the University of Missouri – St. Louis  
4. Achieve a qualifying score on the Missouri assessment exam for initial principal certification  
5. Complete a minimum of one (1) year’s experience as a building or district level administrator at a public or accredited nonpublic school  
6. Achieve a qualifying score on the Missouri assessment exam for district level administrators (superintendent’s exam)  
7. Complete a course in Psychology and/or Education of the Exceptional Child  
8. Complete an Education Specialist (Ed.S) or advanced degree program in Educational Leadership and be recommended by the accredited university  
9. Complete a minimum of sixty-six (66) credit hours above the baccalaureate degree, including the thirty (30) hours listed below. This total may also include a maximum of thirty-six (36) hours of masters level credit  
10. Complete all ten courses (30 hours credit) from the superintendent certification core curriculum listed below:  
   - Ed Adm 6305  School District Administration  
   - Ed Adm 6402  School Personnel Administration  
   - Ed Adm 6403  Problems in School Public Relations  
   - Ed Adm 6404  Collective Negotiations in Education Organizations  
   - Ed Adm 6501  Principles of Public School Finance in Missouri  
   - Ed Adm 6502  School Buildings and Sites  
   - Ed Adm 6303  Middle School Administration OR  
   - Ed Adm 6315  Middle School Philosophy OR  
   - Ed Adm 6317  Supervision and the Middle School Child  
   - Ed Adm 6306  Special Education Administration  
   - Ele Ed 6411  Elementary Curriculum OR Sec Ed 6415 Secondary Curriculum (students must take the curriculum course they did not complete towards the masters degree)  
   - Ed Adm 6900  Internship (central office)
Total: 30 semester hours

*A minimum of fifteen (15) hours of the thirty credit hours listed must be taken through the University of Missouri – St. Louis.

Many of the superintendent certification core curriculum courses may be taken during completion of the Ed.S degree. However, superintendent certification candidates must complete all ten (10) of the core classes listed.