Become an educational leader.
The University of Missouri–St. Louis can help you take the next step in your career whether you’re a teacher who wants to become a principal, a principal seeking superintendent certification or an educator who wants to grow as a leader. UMSL’s master’s, specialist and doctoral programs are designed for educators who want to make a difference in their schools and in their communities. They’re designed for those who want to lead.

Serious education. Serious value.
UMSL offers classes in person, online and in a hybrid format. You’ll learn from highly qualified, personable educators and researchers who take a special interest in the success of their students. We offer assistance with state certification requirements and sponsor multiple events to connect you with local districts and leaders.

MEd in Educational Administration
Aspiring principals complete our master’s program in a two-year cohort. The program is a minimum of 33-credit hours and is aligned with requirements for elementary or secondary principal certification in Missouri.

EdS in Educational Administration
Multiple EdS tracks are available for individuals who already hold a master’s degree in an education field. Students in this program can work towards initial principal or superintendent certification. The superintendent track is 100% online and is a unique collaboration with UMKC and Mizzou. This degree requires 60-credit hours, and up to half may be brought in from a previous master’s in education.

Doctoral Programs
UMSL offers both EdD and PhD programs in educational leadership. The EdD is a three-year, distance learning cohort program emphasizing college access, student services, and higher education while the PhD requires 4-5 years of study in school leadership, student affairs or higher education.

See gocoe.umsl.edu/edleadership for more information.
For decades, UMSL students have represented more than 40 school districts throughout the Greater St. Louis area. Since partnering with us in pursuit of their academic and professional goals, these educators have given back more than 225 academic years of experience and expertise to elementary and secondary students in our communities. We educate St. Louis educators.

I earned both MA and EdS degrees from UMSL and am now in one of their doctoral programs. UMSL is my choice because the professors are highly qualified and experienced in their field. They provide valuable instruction, practical mentorship that continues after graduation, and many opportunities for networking, giving students the benefit of their professional relationships.

- Tracy Smith, Assistant Principal, Hazelwood School District
  (Transitioned Teacher Leader to Instructional Support Leader to Assistant Principal)

UMSL prepared me in both a practical and philosophical sense with coursework that has helped me handle my current role as Principal. I took classes that challenged my thinking, taught me about the legal rights of students and staff and how to develop character in students. As a result, I’m able to analyze and make use of the best practices in administration. The cohort model provided me with an on-going support system! I would not be in my current position without this program. I recommend UMSL’s Master’s program to anyone who is looking for a quality program with a family feel.

-Mr. Courtney Jude, Principal, Lexington Elementary School, St. Louis Public Schools
  (Transitioned from Teacher to Dean of Students to Elementary Principal)

After receiving my Bachelor in Education, I quickly realized that UMSL had better prepared me for success than my new colleagues’ other schools did. When I decided to pursue a master’s degree, UMSL was on the top of my list. I chose UMSL for my Master’s in Leadership because the schedule accommodated my work and parenting life. The insightful and rigorous content prepared me to be a successful leader. Most importantly, the professors work with each student as an individual resulting in confident, compassionate and inspirational future leaders.

-Patrick Brady, Pre-Employment Transition Services Specialist, Missouri University College of Education
  (Transitioned from Special Education Teacher to Community Transition Team to University of Missouri’s Employment Transition Services)

I received my MEd in Educational Administration at UMSL in the spring of 2019 and it was the best decision I’ve made in my career to date. Classes were taught by former administrators with years of successful experience which helped balance conversations between theory and practice. I also appreciated the diversity in my classmates from a variety of school systems. It gave the entire cohort insight on topics from multiple perspectives.

- Annette Fields, Assistant Principal, Ladue School District
  (Transitioned from Teacher and Department Head to Academic Instructional Coach to Assistant Principal)