Improve Outcomes Through Reflective Leadership

The Maryville online Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Higher Education Leadership explores modern faculty-administration dynamics to mold collaborative thought leaders with an expert perspective on social, political, and business leadership in education. Our innovative Ed.D. program can provide you with the big-picture understanding to improve efficacy, delivery, and outcomes for students through reflective decision-making.

The Maryville online Doctor of Education in Higher Education Leadership is distinctly focused on higher education because that’s what’s relevant to your career goals. Study strategic change and planning, legal and policy issues, and research methods. Gain an expert understanding of the contemporary student experience, enrollment and development, and changing faculty roles. Use critical analysis, competitive context, and outcomes and assessment to help institutions evolve with technology and marketplace standards and improve the learning experience. Conduct practice-based research to help guide critical decisions. Learn to apply developmental and organizational theory in real-world situations to respond to the higher ed challenges of today – and tomorrow.

Maryville’s Online Ed.D. at a Glance:

- Graduate in as few as 32 months
- 100% online format
- Option to attend residency on campus or virtually
- Complete your dissertation simultaneously with your coursework
- Receive personal mentorship from faculty advisor from the start
- Cohort learning model provides added support
- Coursework focused specifically on higher education
- Full library access and integrated writing assistance

Ready to get started or have questions? Call 877-323-3811 to speak with an enrollment advisor today.
Putting Your Degree Into Practice

The online Doctor of Education in Higher Education Leadership offers an education that is both relevant and applicable. Beyond its distinct focus on higher education and exploration of applicable theory, the program allows students to pursue individual interests through professional practice courses that are continually updated based on trends in higher education. The result is an empowering education that suits your interests.

We tackle complex issues, from the governance and politics surrounding education to the student experience, staffing, research, and operations. We’ll help you build the expert knowledge that translates to institutions young and old, well-established and up-and-coming, public and private, community college and university. With all content designed for real-world use, this degree is designed to help you effect change from the highest levels of higher education.

Top roles you can pursue with an Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership:

- Chief Academic Officer: $215,347
- Dean of Students: $94,643
- Department Chair: $79,869
- College/University President: $143,608
- Academic Dean: $92,437
- Admissions Director: $66,847
- Provost: $140,000
- Postsecondary Education Administrator: $91,160

All median salaries based on January 2016 reports from Payscale.com

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Online Doctor of Education in Higher Education Leadership Curriculum

You can complete the 18-course, online Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership in as few as 32 months of year-round study. The entirety of the program, including two research residencies to be fulfilled online or on-campus, can be completed in eight semesters. Unlike other doctorate programs, your dissertation is completed simultaneously with your coursework.

EDHL 750 Reflective Leadership Practice & Inquiry (3 credits)
This course introduces you to historical and contemporary foundations of higher education with specific focus on ethical leadership and reflective practice. You will be introduced to educational inquiry and build knowledge and skills in academic research and writing.

EDHL 751 The College Student Experience (3 credits)
Become familiar with higher education leadership from the perspective of the student experience through study of student development theory, student services, student engagement, and through application of theory to practice in student affairs.

EDHL 752 Leadership in Higher Education (3 credits)
Gain a general overview of various aspects of leadership in higher education, including theories, multiple frames approach, strategic planning, and decision-making.

EDHL 753 Educational Research Methods (3 credits)
Learn to identify educational research methodologies and methods, and understand the importance of research design and paradigms.

EDHL 754 The Competitive Context of Higher Education (3 credits)
Discuss the contemporary and future roles of enrollment management, the nature and scope of institutions in higher education, and constituency engagement, as well as other complexities.

EDHL 755 Research Residency 1 (3 credits)
Immerse yourself in dissertation research and writing through workshops, presentations, and critique groups.

EDHL 756 The Academic Community (3 credits)
Develop strategies and leadership skills that will enable you to lead in an academic environment. Topics include academic structure, governance, faculty tenure, emerging roles of faculty, and unions. Identify leadership roles in academic planning and curriculum development, and emerging issues in the academic environment.

EDHL 757 Organizational Leadership in Higher Education (3 credits)
Gain an expert understanding of organizational theory in higher education, power, conflict and crisis management, and organizational behavior.

EDHL 758 Understanding Data & Analysis (3 credits)
Focus on understanding the analysis of qualitative and quantitative data. You will have the opportunity to learn different forms of analysis but can concentrate on the most appropriate type for your own study.

EDHL 759 Strategic Change & Innovation (3 credits)
Prepare to understand, manage, and implement change in an institution. Study change models, barriers and resistance to change, innovation, and the future of higher education. Gain exposure to the concept of design thinking as a tool for innovation.

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EDHL 700-EDHL 715 Professional Practice Courses (3 credits required)
Students will choose three one-hour professional practice courses. These courses are continually updated based on trends in higher education and allow students to develop skills and knowledge in a particular area of interest through self-directed coursework.

EDHL 760 Research Residency 2 (3 credits)
The second residency includes presentations and workshops for advanced research and writing.

EDHL 761 Performance and Accountability (3 credits)
Leaders now and in the foreseeable future are held to many types of performance standards from external and internal forces. Discuss the role of assessment and data for decision-making, accreditation, and the basics of financial management.

EDHL 762 Leading in a Complex Environment (3 credits)
This course provides an overview of the key policy and legal issues in public and private higher education. Learn how policy, legal, and finance intersect and are integrated to solve complex problems.

EDHL 763 Dissertation Research and Writing (3 credits)
The final dissertation course allows you to complete all parts of the dissertation.

EDHL 764 Portfolio Defense (3 credits)
This is a final course to review and defend the comprehensive portfolio through a professional conversation.

EDHL 790 Dissertation Proposal (0 credits) P/NP
Each student will complete a proposal of the research study including the research idea, statement of the problem, its background and significance, a review of the literature, and a proposed methodology and research design to address the problem of practice in higher education leadership to be addressed in the study. The proposal must be approved by the end of semester 4 and the student must receive a grade of P indicating approval of the proposal by the student's faculty advisor/ dissertation chair and program faculty members.

EDHL 791 Dissertation Defense (0 credits) P/NP
Each student will prepare a formal presentation and orally defend the dissertation of practice. The Ed.D. program is complete when the student's dissertation chair, program faculty members, and program director give approval.

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Admission Requirements

Two professional letters of recommendation

Personal essay — 500 - 600 words

Resume/C.V.

Bachelor’s and master’s transcripts

Minimum of three years experience in the field of higher education (exceptions considered for demonstrated professional leadership experience transferable to higher ed)

Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for master’s transcripts

A master’s degree from a regionally accredited institution

About Maryville University

Founded in 1872, Maryville University is a comprehensive and nationally ranked private institution with an enrollment of more than 6,400 students. Maryville offers more than 90 degrees at the undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral levels to students from 50 states and 47 countries.

About the School of Education

The mission of the School of Education at Maryville University is to prepare socially responsible critical thinkers who are collaborative and reflective educators committed to the moral endeavor of schooling in a democracy.

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