



University of Alabama at Birmingham and University of Alabama  
Joint Program for the Degree of

## **Educational Doctorate – Ed.D.**

Fall 2021 Cohort Application Process

**Application Deadline: April 1, 2021**

### **Purpose/Focus of the Ed.D. Degree**

As a *professional* degree, the Ed.D. is designed to meet the needs of those individuals seeking to improve their knowledge and skills so as to become highly competent educational leader-practitioners at the state, district, school, or classroom level. Toward these ends, the Ed.D. is designed to promote a standard of excellence intended to meet the growing demands faced by educational leaders in a context defined by instructional leadership, public accountability for teaching and learning results, increased globalization, diversity, and the emergence of new digital technologies as a part of life. The Ed.D. program is guided by a model of professional inquiry that emphasizes the development and honing of systematic decision making skills to address the problems, challenges, and opportunities of practice. Students will examine the core content domains of strategic and instructional leadership, organizational theory, data-driven decision-making, and various content specialization areas. Faculty have identified requisite knowledge from these domains to facilitate the process of framing and addressing in critical ways the problems of practice. While the primary goal of Ed.D. candidates may not be to teach at the college or university level, because the Ed.D. is a terminal degree, the possibility of doing so at some point may exist.

Applicants must first submit an application through the UAB Graduate School. The deadline for submission for fall 2021 cohort is April 1, 2021.

### **Application Minimum Requirements:**

Potential applicants should be aware that admission to the UA/UAB doctoral program is a competitive process and that submitting an application does not guarantee admission. Minimum entrance requirements include the following:

- 1. Educational Specialist Degree:** An earned Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in an instructional, instructional leadership, or instructional support area is required for admission to the Ed.D. program.
- 2. Educational Leadership Background:** Applicants must hold, at a minimum, a Class A (building-level) certificate in Instructional Leadership.
- 3. Minimum GPA:** A minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- 4. Application to UAB Graduate School** submitted no later than April 1, 2021.
- 5. Miller's Analogy Test:** This requirement has been waived for applicants to the Fall 2021 cohort. Typically, potential applicants are required to report scores from the Miller's Analogy Test

(MAT) at or above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. MAT scores should be less than 5 years old. With permission, an official GRE score is commonly substituted for the MAT score.

6. **Application Portfolio** submitted no later than April 1, 2021.

## Application Portfolio Documents Required

Application portfolios must be compiled with documents presented in the order listed below. Applicants are to submit the portfolio as an email attachment of a single, scanned, pdf. document (one scanned document incorporating all of the sections listed below). Submit no later than April 1, 2021 to Dr. Amy Dagley at [dagley@uab.edu](mailto:dagley@uab.edu)

1. **Cover Page:** The cover page should be a single page document to include all current contact information. Please include Name, Address, Email Address (permanent and UAB if applicable), Cell/Personal Phone Number, Place of Employment (district and school, if applicable), Current Title, Work Address, Work Phone.
2. **Professional Resume**
3. **Letters of Recommendation:** Three letters of professional recommendation. One of these letters must be from your current supervisor. Each letter must be included in the portfolio in hard copy (i.e., electronic references submitted online for the UAB Graduate School are also required, but will not substitute for a copy of each letter in the portfolio).
4. **Letter of Interest:** Include a letter addressed to the Application Review Committee describing your motivation for pursuing a doctoral degree in educational leadership. The letter should be no more than two pages in Times New Roman, 12-point font.
5. **Essay Highlighting Leadership Experiences:** This document will enhance and expand upon your resume by listing key leadership experiences that may be either personal or professional, that involved you acting as a leader within the organization. Please provide a brief list and short (1-2 sentence) description of each role.
6. **Sample of Academic Writing: **Very Important.**** Submit an *academic* paper that you have written. This sample must be an original work (i.e., produced by the applicant), and must provide evidence of the applicant's ability to produce a well-organized and appropriately documented academic written paper. This paper may be an assignment from previous coursework, but must adhere to the American Psychological Association (APA) style guide, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, and must include properly cited and referenced sources. Check the Purdue University Online Writing Lab webpage for APA guidelines and for sample academic papers. A cover page is required, but no abstract is necessary.  
[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/general\\_format.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html)
7. **Evidence of Test Scores:** This requirement has been waived for applicants to the Fall 2021 cohort. (Official report on either the Miller's Analogy Test or Graduate Record Exam, should be at 50<sup>th</sup> percentile or above). If you have a report, please submit it, though you are not required to do so. Please include an official score report from the test publisher in your portfolio. If the score report is no longer available, you may include a letter sent from your previous institution where you completed graduate work, stating your score. This letter may be addressed to Dr. Amy Dagley, 1720 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, S., Birmingham, AL 35294-1250, or sent to [dagley@uab.edu](mailto:dagley@uab.edu).

## Program of Study

A joint doctoral program between the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the University of Alabama offers a unique blend of the strengths from both institutions. Doctoral students may be expected to attend some classes on the UA campus during the completion of core courses throughout the first year

of studies (i.e., one class per term). Students will also attend classes on the UAB campus. Classes may be structured as fully face-to-face, as a blend of face-to-face and online delivery, or fully online/remote. The course delivery model is determined by individual course instructors. During the pandemic, all courses will be delivered using either online or remote formats.

Doctoral students are expected to attend the annual University of Alabama Educational Leadership Conference in Tuscaloosa, AL. These conferences introduce students to leading scholars in the field and to their research in effective school leadership. The conference typically meets on a Friday evening, and again all day Saturday, each year. The conference is typically scheduled for early to mid-spring.

**Basic Course Requirements:**

1. Core Classes – 21 hours (3 classes may meet on UA campus)
2. Foundation Classes – 6 hours
3. Research Classes – 12 hours minimum
4. Dissertation Hours – 12 hours minimum

**UAB Program Faculty Contact**

|                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amy Dagley, Ph.D.<br>Assistant Professor<br>Ed.D. Program Coordinator<br>205-975-1984<br><a href="mailto:dagley@uab.edu">dagley@uab.edu</a> | Gary Peters, Ph.D.<br>Associate Professor<br>Ed.S. Program Coordinator<br>205-975-3460<br><a href="mailto:gpeters@uab.edu">gpeters@uab.edu</a> | D. Keith Gurley, Ed.D.<br>Assistant Professor<br>EDL Program Coordinator<br>913-449-0422<br><a href="mailto:kgurley@uab.edu">kgurley@uab.edu</a> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Note: Applicants will be admitted to the Doctorate of Education program at UAB/UA every other year.

**Tentative Course Requirements for  
EdD Degree Program (subject to change)**

| <b>Year 1</b>                                                                                                                           |                                                            |                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fall 1                                                                                                                                  | Spring 1                                                   | Summer 1                                                                |
| EPR 608 Statistical Methods and Action Research (3)                                                                                     | EPR 594 Introduction to Educational Research Design (3)    | EPR 596 Introduction to Qualitative Methods in Educational Research (3) |
| AEL 602 Advanced Educational Leadership (3)                                                                                             | AEL 671 Survey of Instructional Leadership (3)             | EDL 756 Current Legal Problems in Alabama Education (3)                 |
| <b>Year 2</b>                                                                                                                           |                                                            |                                                                         |
| Fall 2                                                                                                                                  | Spring 2                                                   | Summer 2                                                                |
| EPR 696 Qualitative Research: Inquiry and Analysis (3)<br>Or<br>EPR 609 Statistical Methods and Research in Education: Intermediate (3) | EDF 708 Ethical Dilemmas in Educational Administration (3) | EDL 755 Advanced School System Administration (3)                       |
| EDF 720 Culture and American Education: Race, Class and Gender (3)                                                                      | AEL 650 Organizational Theory (3)                          | EDL 725 Current Issues and Problems in School Administration (3)        |
| <b>Year 3</b>                                                                                                                           |                                                            |                                                                         |
| Fall 3                                                                                                                                  | Spring 3                                                   | Summer 3                                                                |
| EDL 720 Proposal Writing (3)                                                                                                            | EDL 799 Dissertation Research (6)                          | EDL 799 Dissertation Research (6)                                       |
| GRD 717 Principles of Scientific Integrity                                                                                              |                                                            |                                                                         |
| <b>Course Categories</b>                                                                                                                |                                                            |                                                                         |
| Core: 9 UA                                                                                                                              | Core: 12 UAB                                               |                                                                         |
| Foundations: 6                                                                                                                          |                                                            |                                                                         |
| Research: 12                                                                                                                            |                                                            |                                                                         |
| Dissertation: 12 (min.)                                                                                                                 |                                                            |                                                                         |
| GRD 717: 3                                                                                                                              |                                                            |                                                                         |
| <b>Total: 54</b>                                                                                                                        |                                                            |                                                                         |

**Residency Requirement:** Ed.D. students must be enrolled for a minimum of nine semesters and must complete a minimum of 54 credit hours.

## Documentation of Medical Clearance

All students (degree-seeking and non-degree seeking) applying to UAB must obtain medical clearance. After you are admitted to the program, you will receive an email about obtaining medical clearance. It will have links to the UAB Student Health and Wellness (SHW) website and to the Patient Portal: <http://www.uab.edu/studenthealth/medical-clearance>. Links to these SHW webpages are also available on your BlazerNet account.

You must meet the medical clearance deadline (e.g., Aug. 1, 2021 for Fall admission). If not, you will be blocked from registering for classes. If you are already registered but don't submit all required records by the medical clearance deadline, your registration may be automatically canceled. Check the SHW website for the deadline date for the term to which you are applying.

**Which immunizations do you need?** To find out, go to <http://www.uab.edu/studenthealth/medical-clearance> and answer these questions:

*When did/will you matriculate (begin classes) at UAB?*

Fall term 2021 or later

*Are you a clinical or non-clinical student?*

Non-clinical (no patient contact)

*Are all of your courses completely online?*

Yes, all courses completely online or No, at least one class on campus

*Are you a United States citizen?*

Yes, I am a U.S. citizen. or No, I am not a U.S. citizen.

**Level 1 Immunization.** Most Educational Leadership students are classified as requiring Level 1 immunization. This consists of: **MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), TDAP (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis), Varicella (Chickenpox/Shingles); and Tuberculosis (TB) screening.** Immunizations and TB screening are available at SHW (1714 Ninth Avenue South) for a fee. Make an appointment by calling 205-934-3581 or by accessing the Patient Portal at:

<http://www.uab.edu/studenthealth/services/immunizations-and-tb-tests>

**Submitting Health Records (for students who start after Summer 2016).** Click "Forms" on Patient Portal. Then click "Immunizations entry form" and "Add immunization record." Upload scanned documents as JPEG, JPG, PNG, or GIF. Or, you can fax your immunization records to 205-996-7468. As you complete these requirements, your immunization status will be reflected on your student profile in BlazerNET and on the Patient Portal under the "Immunizations" tab. If you have questions, contact [medclearance@uab.edu](mailto:medclearance@uab.edu).

## Webpages and Notes of Interest

### Online Application

<https://www.uab.edu/graduate/admissions>

NOTE: Open this link, click on the green “Apply Now” button, and establish an application account. UAB is pleased to offer this web-based application in order to make our application process as easy and convenient as possible.

### Check Admission Status

You can check your application status by logging in to your application dashboard.

### Notification of Admission Decision

The timeline for the graduate admissions process varies based on your individual circumstances and the program to which you have applied. You will be notified via email once a decision has been made on your application.

### Detailed Tuition and Fees

<https://www.uab.edu/cost-aid/cost/detailed-tuition-fees#graduate>

### Graduate School

<http://www.uab.edu/graduate/>

### Educational Leadership Program

<https://www.uab.edu/education/home/graduate/educational-leadership>

### Office of Student Services (OSS)

<https://www.uab.edu/education/home/students/office-of-student-services>

The Office of Student Services (OSS) is responsible for undergraduate academic advising, registration, processing graduate applications for admission, applications for degree, and certification. The OSS works diligently to support our students in achieving their educational goals in an environment that embodies the School of Education values of respectfulness, responsiveness, and innovativeness.

### UAB Student Health and Wellness (SHW)

<https://www.uab.edu/students/health/>

### UAB Office of Financial Aid

<https://www.uab.edu/cost-aid/>

**Estimated Minimum Tuition Charges for EdD Program  
Based on 2020-2021 In-State Tuition Costs\***

**Tuition for Courses Taken in the UAB School of Education**

Tuition for each semester hour of graduate credit for the School of Education: \$450

| Estimated EdD Degree Program Costs*                                                        |           |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| <b>First Semester</b>                                                                      |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Second Semester</b>                                                                     |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Third Semester</b>                                                                      |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Fourth Semester</b>                                                                     |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Fifth Semester</b>                                                                      |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Sixth Semester</b>                                                                      |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Seventh Semester</b>                                                                    |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Eighth Semester</b>                                                                     |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Ninth Semester</b>                                                                      |           |                 |
| Six credit hours                                                                           | 6 x \$450 | \$2,700         |
| <b>Total Estimated Tuition Fees</b><br>(*2020-2021 rate, subject to change without notice) |           | <b>\$24,300</b> |

\*Estimate of tuition costs and fees are based on 2020-2021 tuition rates and are subject to change by the university Board of Trustees at the beginning of any term. This estimate includes basic tuition rates only and does not include the cost of books, software, hardware or other, incidental fees and costs that may be required for program courses or expectations.

**Fees Paid by Party Other Than Student or Student's Family:** If tuition fees are to be paid by a party other than the student or student's family (e.g., government agency, employer), students must visit the Cashier's Office in the UAB Office of Student Accounting prior to the first day of classes.