Program of Study

The 36-hour program consists of 24 hours in the major, one 3-hour research course, and one 3-hour course in foundations. Upon acceptance to the program each candidate will be assigned an advisor. In consultation with that advisor, students then complete a Program of Study and purchase LiveText in which they will keep a copy of their assignment portfolio for use in application for their later certification. For the Program of Study form, click here: INLE EdS POS.

Educational Leadership (24 semester hours)

- AEL 631 Strategic Leadership
- AEL 632 Leading and Learning Through the Curriculum
- AEL 633 Leadership, Development and Mentoring for Adult Learners
- AEL 634 Development and Supervision of Human Resources
- AEL 635 Ethics, Legal, and Policy Issues in Schools
- AEL 636 School Finance and Financial Management
- AEL 637 Leadership and Social Systems
- AEL 638 Solving the Problems of Practice

Educational Research (3 semester hours)

Students who have not taken BER 540 or its equivalent will be required to do so as a prerequisite for the program. One of the following advisor approved courses should be selected.

- BER 660 Quantitative Research Methods in Ed or
- BER 663 Survey Research in Education or
- BER 631 Qualitative Methods in Education

Foundations of Professional Studies

Select one advisor approved 600 level course

In addition to the 39 hours above, a survey of special education course will be required unless previously completed.
Comprehensive Exams

Effective spring, 2011 and thereafter, all comprehensive examinations will be held on both the main campus in Tuscaloosa and at the Graduate Center in Gadsden. This exam is typically given between the 8th and 13th week of the semester. Ed.S. students should contact the ELPTS program Senior Office Assistant, Vanessa Williams, wil8077@bamaed.ua.edu, for the date and time of the exam for any given semester.

Students must apply to take comprehensive exams in the first week of the semester. To do this, complete the form and fax it to Vanessa Williams at 205.348.2161. You may check on its arrival by emailing Vanessa Williams, wil8077@bamaed.ua.edu. In order to be eligible for the Comprehensive Exams, students must have completed all ABL course requirements and removed all grades of "I" from their academic record. Typically, students write their exams during the last semester of course work. The Ed.S. faculty members construct common examination questions including appropriate course-integrating questions. The testing coordinator will gather and disseminate the questions to the proctor of the examination, supervise the evaluation process, and report results.

The examination is administered once during the fall and spring semester, typically on a Saturday between the 8th and 10th week of the semester. No examinations will be given in the summer term. The exact date of the examination will be announced and published on the Educational Leadership website during the first weeks of classes. All examinations will be scheduled both in Tuscaloosa and in Gadsden on the same date and will last four hours: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The examination will consist of a number of questions, of which the student must answer four.

Students may choose to type or handwrite their examination. No lap top computers will be allowed in the room. Sufficient computers will be provided. Three Ed.S. faculty members will independently read and evaluate the questions. A five point scale is used to record reader evaluations of student responses. The score for each question will be the average for all readers. A minimum total average score of 3.0 is required to pass the exam. Results of the examination will be reported to the student within 4-6 weeks of taking the exam. Students who fail the exam may retake it during the following semester. Comprehensive exams may not be retaken more than two times.