University of Kentucky’s New Principal Preparation Program
Quick Facts

The Department of Educational Leadership Studies is pleased to offer a new approach to principal preparation, borne out of systematic need finding with the Commonwealth’s educators and careful integration of research and practice.

Below you’ll find details about the program, designed specifically to equip aspiring principals to cultivate and lead the transformational changes needed today to truly prepare students for post-secondary success.

Eligibility
To be eligible for admission to this graduate program, candidates must:

• Be a participant in the Next Generation Leadership Academy,
• Qualify for or hold a Kentucky teaching certificate,
• Have successfully completed at least three years full-time teaching in P12 setting,
• Have successfully completed a master’s degree in education with cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale,
• Be recommended by a superintendent or other district-level administrator who attests to applicant’s educational leadership and professionalism, and
• Aspire to serve as a principal in a P12 school.
• Highly recommended, but not mandatory: Have completed a graduate-level basic statistics course with a grade of B higher

Your Academy Year
• Twelve graduate credit hours will be earned in your first year through both the Next Generation Leadership Academy and coursework.
  o Through participation in the Next Generation Leadership Academy, candidates will work in small groups with principal program faculty who serve as mentors. These mentors will ensure a personalized experience while interweaving course content with the six critical attributes that form the foundation of the Next Generation Leadership Academy: (1) clear and high expectations, (2) customized pathways, (3) competency-based learning, (4) anywhere/anytime learning, (5) comprehensive systems of supports, and (6) a strong focus on student agency.
  
  o In addition to attending the Next Generation Leadership Academy sessions throughout the year, candidates will be expected to complete required weekly graduate level assignments, delivered online via modules within the University of Kentucky’s online course system, Canvas, and assessed by your faculty mentors.
After Your Academy Year

• Once you have completed your 12 graduate hours in your Academy year, the remaining 18 hours required for principal certification will be provided in a blended format consisting of both on-line and face-to-face sessions delivered via the Department of Educational Leadership Studies by University of Kentucky faculty.

• Courses will be offered in an order to allow candidates who begin in the fall to complete Level 1 certification by the following December, or in 4 semesters (fall, spring, summer, fall).

• At the conclusion of the program, a total of 5 semesters, you will have earned Level 2 Certification and an Education Specialist degree from the University of Kentucky.

Apply Now So You Can Earn Your First 12 Credit Hours

• Candidates should apply now to the University of Kentucky Graduate School for the following:

  Program: Educational Leadership
  Degree: Specialist in Education degree
  Option: Instructional Leadership-School Principal (K-12)

• The Graduate School application can be found here: http://www.research.uky.edu/gs/ProspectiveStudents/Admission.html

• You will need to complete all of the requirements for the EDS application as listed here: http://www.gradschool.uky.edu/prospectivestudents/program_regs/ed_leadership.html. Just scroll down until you see “Specialist Degree – EdS in Educational Leadership.

• Courses completed through the Academy year include the following: EDL 706 and EDL 709 (fall) and EDL 707 and EDL 646 (spring). Candidates should register for these courses following the University’s designated registration periods. Questions about registration should be directed to Matthew Reed at matthew.reed@uky.edu.

• Information about UK’s Next Generation Leadership Academy can be found here: http://sites.education.uky.edu/nxgla/ as well as on our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/University-of-Kentucky-Next-Generation-Leadership-Academy-915711391815491/?fref=ts

• Additional information about UK’s Principal Preparation Program can be found here: https://education.uky.edu/edl/principal-preparation-program/

• If you have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Dr. Carmen Coleman at carmen.coleman@uky.edu or by phone, 859-351-5026.