The Ph.D. in Educational Leadership at Prairie View A&M University is designed to encourage bold, innovative, and successful leadership of teaching and learning organizations as well as develop new knowledge through research and problem-based learning for enhancing the effectiveness of schools and educational agencies. The Doctor of Philosophy Program in Educational Leadership is structured to prepare educational leaders who seek to develop and improve their skills and abilities to provide excellence in leading diverse organizations. Our program is primarily geared towards the preparation of leaders in public and nonpublic schools, regional service centers, state departments of education, and national and state professional educational organizations. Graduates and candidates may also seek employment as professors and researchers in colleges, universities, research centers, and foundations.
Doctoral candidates are expected to exercise independent scholarship, develop a strong knowledge base, and emphasize the development of educational theory in research. The overarching goal of the program is for administrative candidates to develop critical thinking abilities that center on knowledge of professional literature, reasoning skills, and data analysis methods. Major foci of the program include:

- Understanding the sources of successful leadership practices, processes, and effects.
- Acquiring knowledge and understanding of the most recent theory and research in education.
- Understanding psychological and philosophical foundations of education.
- Appreciating the relationship of educational organizations with their political and social environments in which they are embedded.
- Understanding the unique challenges involved in leading and influencing professionals organizations and creating viable solutions to address the challenges.
- Applying research experience and data analysis to solving organizational problems.
- Applying theory and research on change to improve educational programs.

The educational objectives of the program are:
1. To support educational leadership needs of the state and nation in this rapidly growing area;
2. To educate, develop, and prepare individuals who possess the research and methodological skills to initiate, conduct, and evaluate independent research;
3. To prepare educated citizens who are both able and willing to meet the leadership needs of both public and private sectors of society; and
4. To prepare liberally educated individuals who know how to think, reason, and apply knowledge that will enable them to work and use technology in an ever changing world.

Admissions Standards
Along with an application, prospective students should submit the following items:

- Scores from the Graduate Record Examination (verbal and quantitative) which should be in the higher percentile;
- Official completed transcript of the master’s degree from an accredited institution in an area appropriate to the proposed discipline of study with a 3.2 GPA or higher on all completed graduate work;
- A letter of intent (500 – 1000 words) providing evidence of high motivation for advanced graduate work;
- Three letters of recommendation from professional references sufficiently acquainted with the applicant’s ability and scholarship for successful doctoral studies;
- Documentation of a score of 600 or higher on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for International students whose first language is not English;
- Strong communication skills when participating in an oral interview along with completion of a writing sample.
- A portfolio that demonstrates potential for success in the program, including prior leadership experience (requested if the applicant is invited to participate in an interview with departmental faculty); and
- A $50 application fee at the time of application.

Please mail or deliver all application materials to The Graduate School at the following address.

The Whitlowe R. Green College of Education
Prairie View A&M University
P.O. Box 519, M.S. 2400
Prairie View, Texas 77446

Additional information on the Ph.D. Program in Educational Leadership is available online at www.pvamu.edu/pages/1989.asp. Also, please see our Frequently Asked Questions page found at www.pvamu.edu/pages/6385.asp.

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