



Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study

Educational Leadership - CAGS

- CIP code 130401 • School Administration 36-38* credits • 4 terms full-time
- Program approved by the Mass. Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) for Principal/Assistant Principal (PreK-8 or 5-12)

Program Description — The Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (CAGS) in Educational Leadership is a post-master’s option designed for educators to advance their knowledge and skills specific to leadership in P-12 schools and districts. The focus is to advance teaching and learning through school transformation, with a concentration in school administration or curriculum. The program is based on standards upheld by the Educational Leadership Constituent Council and follows the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (DESE) Professional Standards for Administrators. Emphasis is on the role power and politics play in schools and districts along with research skills and data analysis required to support and advance caring, competent, and qualified teachers and school leaders.

Outcomes — Graduates: (a) demonstrate the knowledge and ability to create a physically and emotionally safe school environment, (b) demonstrate a knowledge of and sensitivity to school and system organization; (c) understand that improving teaching and learning is an intricate process that requires a willingness to change, an educational vision, and persuasive communication; (d) pursue action research and data collection to inform decision making and create meaningful professional development for faculty; and (e) explore technology, inclusive strategies for reaching a diverse student body, and develop skills in teaching students with special needs and those for whom English is a second language. As a result, graduates perceive their educational setting as part of a larger system and are able to identify workable solutions for positive change supportive of teaching and learning.

Careers — Graduates enter into the full range of school leadership positions in public, private, and charter schools and in corporate and community education. Positions held include teacher-leaders, department chairs, assistant principal, and principal. In addition, graduates hold offices at the district level as coordinators and directors.

An administrator license is required for employment half-time or more as director, department head, or curriculum specialist.

All students who enter CAGS must select a concentration and level of licensure if desired, and submit a signed Declaration of Intent **by the end of their first term of enrollment**. All students must consult the program chair and have their approval *prior* to submitting the Declaration of Intent.

CAGS-Licensure — Program Completion Requirements

- All CAGS requirements for licensure must be met, including those outlined for program entry, all CAGS courses, and field experiences (pre-practicum and practicum).
- Sheltered English Immersion or successful completion of the SEI RETELL or SEI MTEL offered through DESE.
- A total of 500 hours of field experiences, including the Pre-Practicum and Practicum, in the role and level of licensure sought.
- Massachusetts Performance Assessment for Leaders (PAL) — required of candidates seeking licensure as a principal or assistant principal.
- Exit Performance Portfolio via TaskStream.

Practicum Prerequisites—*All documentation is verified and signed by the professional seminar advisor and program chair, then uploaded in TaskStream.*

- Signed acknowledgement of area/level of licensure sought, PreK-8 or 5-12
- Successful completion of all courses with a grade of “B” or better.
- Unless evidence is submitted that the SEI RETELL or SEI MTEL was successfully completed prior to program admission, all candidates must take the SEI 705 Sheltered English Immersion for School Administrators.
- Pre-Practicum logs documenting hours embedded in courses appropriate to the area of licensure.

CAGS-Non-Licensure — Program Completion Requirements

All CAGS components are required except for those specific to licensure (e.g., the Massachusetts Communications and Literacy MTEL, SEI, MA-PAL).

***Program credits:** 36 credits total if SEI is completed before enrollment, 38 credits if SEI is completed at Cambridge College.

Program and course schedule subject to change.

Program chair: Stephen Maio, Ed.D.

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Continued



Educational Leadership - CAGS

School Administration (licensure and non-licensure)

- Principal/Asst Principal

Term 1

- ECL 800 Foundations of Social Science Research
- ECA 725 Instructional Leadership: Supervision & Administration | of Educational Personnel
- ECA 701 School Management & the Law

Term 2

- ECL 801 Advanced Graduate Research Seminar
- ECL 802 Advanced Leadership
- ECA 703 Managing Financial Resources

Term 3

- ECL 803 Advanced Technologies in Education
- ECL 804 Advanced Leadership in Policy & Practice
- SEI 705 Supervision of Sheltered English Immersion Instruction for Administrators (2 credits) — only if needed.
- ECC 710 Assessment & Developing & Evaluating Curriculum

ECA 805 Practicum I (3 credits)

- ECA 805 **H** Principal/Asst Princ (PreK-8) *300 of 500 hours*
- ECA 805 **J** Principal/Asst Princ (5-12) *300 of 500 hours*

Term 4

- ECL 807 Applied Action Research Project (1 credit)
- ECC 707 Meeting the Challenge of School Restructuring

ECA 805 Practicum II (2 credits)

- ECA 806 **H** Principal/Asst Princ (PreK-8) *200 of 500 hours*
- ECA 806 **J** Principal/Asst Princ (5-12) *200 of 500 hours*

Total 36-38 credits with 500 hours of documented practicum.

MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education required practicum hours for licensure:

- Principal/Assistant Principal: 500 hours

(All courses @ 3 credits except as noted.)