THE ILLINOIS STATE DIFFERENCE

This 36 credit hour program, which can be completed in approximately 2.5 years, leads to a principal endorsement on a professional educator’s license.

As of January 2014, this program was one of only 26 ISBE State Approved Principal Preparation Programs and our groundbreaking internship and university partnerships with area districts have received national attention. The College of Education Graduate Program is rated in the Top 100 according to the US News and World Report.

The ISU Difference is the:
- Quality of the faculty
- Practical Wisdom as conceptual framework
- Cohort structure of the program
- Regional Office of Education/District Partnership Network
- Field-based performance evaluation in courses

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS WITH DISTRICTS

We are grateful to have partnerships in place with over 30 school districts and 5 ROEs as the EAF Department moves forward with implementation of the ISU Principal Preparation Program. We are particularly excited about the diversity of viewpoints represented among the partners.

Thank you to the following representatives who serve on the School Districts’ Advisory Committee for the principal program:

Dr. Chad Allaman       Washington #50       ROE 53
Dr. John Asplund       Farmington #265      ROE 48
Mr. Guy Gradert        Ridgeview #19        ROE 17
Dr. Richard Jancek     Dwight #230, #232    ROE 17
Mrs. Gail Owen         Regional Supt.        ROE 53
Mr. Curt Nettles       Clinton #15          ROE 17
Mr. Jay McCracken      Putnam County #535    ROE 43
Dr. Chuck Nagel        East Peoria #309      ROE 53
Dr. Herschel Hannah    Bloomington #87      ROE 17
Dr. Lindsey Hall       Morton #709           ROE 53
Dr. Patrick Halloran   Morris #101          ROE 24
Mr. Mark Jontry        Regional Supt.        ROE 17

The Illinois State University difference for the Principal Preparation Program encompasses the quality of the ISU faculty and the practical inquiry-based program. One feature that makes ISU a top choice for future administrators is the unique partnership network for supporting the required internship. ROE and School District partners will be involved with matching mentors and sites for internship experiences.

The following Regional Offices of Education are in our Network:

ROE 17: DeWitt-Livingston-McLean
ROE 24: Grundy-Kendall
ROE 43: Marshall-Putnam-Woodford
ROE 48: Peoria
ROE 53: Tazewell

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Brad Hutchison, Coordinator P12 Programs
340F DeGarmo Hall
Campus Box 5900
Normal, IL 61790-5900
Phone: 309-438-1301
E-Mail: bkhutch@ilstu.edu
The Master's in P-12 Educational Administration is ISU's 36 hour principal preparation program. The program relates to the principal endorsement on a professional educator license. An on-campus cohort model will begin Fall 2015 and meets Monday and Wednesday evenings, including summers. The program is approved by ISBE and qualifies graduates for positions as principals and assistant principals, or for related positions. The program's conceptual framework is Practical Wisdom for Leaders: Connecting Theory to Practice, which encompasses the following beliefs:

- Leadership preparation features a dynamic relationship between practice and scholarship.
- Courses blend themes of Leadership, Learning, and Social Justice in the context of Practical Wisdom.
- Faculty honor diverse voices and multiple perspectives.
- Graduates are our partners in the field, building inclusive learner-centered communities.

FACULTY

The EAF Department full-time faculty are highly engaged in their communities and widely recognized for their research.

Dr. Guy Banicki has served in public education for 35 years as teacher, principal, and superintendent. He specializes in School Finance and the Superintendent. He has been at ISU since 2009 and serves as a SAM mentor for principals in Unit 5.

Dr. Mary Kay Scharf is a graduate of Illinois State University (ISU, 1986). She has been a public school educator for 33 years, serving as a school principal for the past 25 years. Currently, she is the Director of Principal Leadership in the Bloomington Public Schools. In this role, she provides support for current principals, mentorship for new principals, and is developing and coordinating the internship program for principals in training.

Mr. Brad Hutchison is a long-time leader of P12 education in Illinois and is a proud ISU alumnus. He is a graduate of the Illinois School for Advanced Leadership (ISAL) program sponsored by the Illinois Association of School Administrators, where he also served as a member of the board of directors, and is currently an ISAL coach practicing Superintendents. Brad has served a wide array of P-12 positions including Supt.

Dr. Elizabeth Lugg (J.D.) has practiced in the area of education law since 1986. She has experience as a School Board attorney, state lobbyist, and attorney for professional administrator organizations. At ISU she teaches all education law courses as well as many administrative courses. A mother of 7 boys who attend or have attended public schools, Dr. Lugg is not only current on public schools from a legal perspective, but from a family perspective.

Dr. Linda Lyman's teaching and publications focus on leadership with an emphasis on developing caring schools, the interaction of poverty with learning, and social justice pathways of women educational leaders worldwide. She has been at ISU since 1999. A former school board member, Dr. Lyman's background as an educator includes teaching high school English, being a regional consultant for gifted education and staff development, and serving as an administrative assistant to the coordinator of Fine Arts and Gifted Education at the Nebraska Department of Education.

Dr. Neil E. Sappington has served in public education for 33 years as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent. He specializes in curriculum, instruction, assessment and professional development that support meaningful school improvement. He has been at ISU since 2005 and works with local administrators in the area of school improvement and professional development.

COURSE INFORMATION - 36 CREDIT HOURS APPROXIMATELY 2.5 YEARS

- 430: Issues in Site Level Leadership
- 431: School Leadership and the Law
- 432: Principal as Change Agent
- 433: Leading Learning for Equity and Social Justice
- 434: Supervision of Learning Environments
- 435: Leadership for Stages of Mind
- 436: Leadership for Diverse Learning Needs
- 437: Assessment Data Systems
- 438: Building Community Engagement through Collaboration
- 439: Leading School Improvement Planning

How to align building-level human/fiscal resource allocation to develop effective instruction to meet specific student improvement needs.

Legal aspects of Illinois public education with emphasis on constitutional law and rulings of school partners and the community.

Exploration of leadership practice/theory, change processes/models, communication skills, and frameworks for building learning cultures that support sustainable change.

Dispositions and strategies for leading socially just schools, where every student can achieve at high levels.

Supervisory techniques to improve the PK-12 teaching/learning process, including observational data collection and analysis, and conferencing skills.

Exploration of leadership applications of educational neuroscience to enhance learning capacities from early childhood through adulthood.

Introduces knowledge and skills for a school leader to meet the needs of a diverse student population.

Exploration of school and district-level assessment systems that will facilitate student learning and provide information for professional development.

Introduction to school improvement planning Prek through high school, focusing on curriculum, instruction and professional development.

The internship is a total of three segments, two credits each taken during the fall, summer and spring semesters for a total of 6 credit hours.

COST

This is a 36 credit hour program, which can be completed in 2.5 years. Current in-state tuition and fees are $1,360.38 for a 3-credit graduate course. However, future costs and tuition may increase annually.

Please refer to the ISU Financial Aid page for more information: http://financialaid.illinoisstate.edu/paying/cost/

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Illinois State University is proud of the many scholarships and the financial assistance available to its students. Students can explore financial assistance options at: http://grad.illinoisstate.edu/funding/fellowships/

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION - APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 11, 2016

Admission process for this program is extensive. Details can be found on the Master’s Degree in P-12 Educational Administration page http://education.illinoisstate.edu/ms_p12/admissions/ and you can apply online through http://grad.illinoisstate.edu/

Required for application consideration:

- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for either the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework or any previous work in a Master’s program.
- Evidence of passing the Illinois Basic Skills test, a valid teaching certificate and at least 2 years full-time teaching experience (4 years preferred)
- Updated resume
- A written recommendation from current School District
- One official copy of transcripts from all institutions
- Admissions Essay
- Professional Portfolio, including a table to contents, that contains evidence of: how all students are supported in achieving high standards of learning; accomplished classroom instruction; significant leadership roles; excellent communication skills; analytic abilities; demonstrated respect for community; strong interpersonal skills; knowledge of curriculum and instruction practices
- Prospective candidates will be interviewed in person by representative faculty and Advisory Committee partners and will respond in writing to a problem scenario.

Schedule

Coursework: Fall 16, Spring 17, Summer 17, Fall 17, Spring 18

Internship: Summer 18, Fall 18, Spring 19

(not full time, does not require leave of absence)