

**From:** [John C. Pijanowski](#)  
**To:** [Alice R. Griffin](#)  
**Cc:** [Ketevan Mamiseishvili](#)  
**Subject:** Re: EDLEED proposed changes  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 5:20:52 PM

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Alice - This is very helpful feedback and as I look at it I think this is very confusing because these are not actually degree requirements - they are essentially admissions requirements where we look to make sure that students coming in have the equivalent of these graduate credit hours upon admission and so 96 minimum includes all post baccalaureate hours (their graduate work prior to admission plus the 42 doctoral level hours). So can we simply delete that sentence completely?

Thanks again for the thoughtful feedback and suggestions.

John

On Mar 31, 2021, at 3:05 PM, Alice R. Griffin <[agriffin@uark.edu](mailto:agriffin@uark.edu)> wrote:

Hello John,

Yes, that information is very helpful. I think the statement that I am struggling with is the introduction. I understand that the doctoral level curriculum is often customized to meet individual student needs. But I also think it is important to be as transparent as possible with the program requirements. The statement below is what is currently in the catalog, but thought it would be worth reviewing.

**Requirements for the Doctor of Education Degree:** Completion of the courses required for the Master of Education degree in Educational Leadership, and completion of the courses required for the Educational Specialist degree in Educational Leadership.

If I understood your note below, a student may or may not complete the Educational Specialist degree, as long as they have satisfied the district level licensure requirements, correct? To reduce student confusion, would it help to update the statement with the following?

**Requirements for the Doctor of Education Degree:** Completion of the courses required for the Master of Education degree in Educational Leadership, and completion of the courses required for the Educational Specialist degree in Educational Leadership **or satisfy the district level licensure core.**

I have also discovered this language has been part of the degree requirements since at least the 2013-2014 catalog. So, I certainly do not want to complicate the traditional program requirements. But from my exploration in reviewing other catalog years, I found one reference that noted the program requires a minimum of 96 credit hours. Do you think it would be helpful to include that information in the proposed catalog copy? Please note, this request is not a directive. It sometimes helps to have an outsider review the information to help identify gaps or information that may be misinterpreted (even if it has been in place for a while).

Thanks for taking time to review my observations and answer my questions.

Best regards,  
Alice

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**From:** John C. Pijanowski <[jpijanow@uark.edu](mailto:jpijanow@uark.edu)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 4:47 PM  
**To:** Alice R. Griffin <[agriffin@uark.edu](mailto:agriffin@uark.edu)>  
**Cc:** Ketevan Mamiseishvili <[kmamisei@uark.edu](mailto:kmamisei@uark.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: EDLEED proposed changes

Alice - One pathway to the doctoral program could include our specialist but can also include only the district level licensure core (and the hour requirement for these pathways also vary in different institutions across the country) so that was our thinking when we landed at that number (basing it on a review of our candidate pool). I hope that helps.

Thanks,  
John

On Mar 30, 2021, at 4:41 PM, Alice R. Griffin <[agriffin@uark.edu](mailto:agriffin@uark.edu)> wrote:

Good afternoon John,

I am reviewing the program changes proposed by you for the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership. I need your help with the program requirements. The total hours are noted in the template as 96 credit hours. Yet, the program requirements state that a student must complete the courses required for the MEd in Educational Leadership (33 hours) and completion of the Education Specialist in Educational Leadership (30 hours). These 63 credit hours when combined with the 42 credit hours listed for the EdD total 105 hours.

I found six hours of overlap (EDLE 6503 and EDLE 6513) between the EdD and the EdS. If these hours are taken into consideration, there would be 99 hours. Can you help me determine what are the correct hours for the program? I would appreciate any insight you can provide.

Thank you for the assistance.  
Alice

**Alice R. Griffin, Ed.D.**

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