

# Master of Education (MEd) Concentration in Leadership of PreK-12 Educational Organizations



## OVERVIEW

The preparation of educational professionals to serve as leaders in schools and communities is critical across the education industry. The goal of the Master of Education with a concentration in Leadership of PreK-12 Educational Organizations is to transition candidates from leadership in the classroom to completing an educator preparation program that leads to a Principal PreK-12 Certification in the State of Arizona, through its alternate route approval.

This program helps candidates prepare with knowledge, skills, and abilities representative of Arizona Professional Administrative Standards (R7-2-603) ("AZPA Standards"). Candidates in this program must complete a structured, field-based practicum that focuses on actual experiences in their current educational setting aligned with each of the AZPA Standards. The experience reinforces real-world engagement and mentored coursework and provides an opportunity to actively plan, participate in, and reflect upon campus leadership skills necessary for transition into an educational administrator role.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to AIU's general graduate admissions requirements, prospective candidates must have the following in order to be officially admitted to this program:

1. A teaching certificate that is current at the time of enrollment
2. At least three years of teaching experience
3. Current employment with an Arizona PreK-12 educational institution that has signed (or will agree to sign) a practicum partnership with AIU
4. A supervising practitioner identified†

### CURRICULUM INCLUDES

The MEd with a concentration in Leadership of PreK-12 Educational Organizations is designed to provide candidates with a productive environment for meaningful opportunities to analyze strengths and weaknesses throughout critical developmental stages of educational institutions. The program's collaborative design encompasses the candidates, supervising practitioner, school community, and university faculty to assimilate the organization and leadership essential to a school's success.

The program includes 15 practicum hours per course for a total of 150 practicum hours that are required for graduation. The practicum hours must be completed onsite in an Arizona school, in which candidates perform principal/administrator duties to obtain real-world practice within their school/district and will include field observation, a log of activities/events, and supervising practitioner evaluations.

The program culminates in a Capstone e-Portfolio that demonstrates (a) quality coaching in the field via carefully selected mentors; (b) experienced faculty engagement; and (c) documentation that chronicles learning gains and thoughtful reflections for future actions. This three-area approach is designed to enhance the candidates' meaningful experiences supported by the campus mentor, faculty, and district expectations.

\* Transfer credits are evaluated on an individual basis. Not all credits are eligible to transfer. See the University Catalog for transfer credit policies.

### WHY AIU?

AIU offers a streamlined, real-world curriculum and flexibility designed to help you schedule school around your life, not the other way around.

To accommodate busy lives, we offer full and part-time program options and transfer-in credit\* for eligible college, work and military experience, which could cut down on the time it takes to earn a degree.

American InterContinental University™ is a member of the American InterContinental University System. The System is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.



AIUniv.edu

## COURSEWORK

American InterContinental University has received approval from the Arizona Department of Education, through the Arizona State Board of Education, that this program and its curriculum meet the state educational requirements for principal certification in the State of Arizona through its alternate route pathway.

†Supervising practitioner must possess an Arizona Administrative Certification and a current classification of highly effective or effective pursuant to ARS §§ 15-341(A)(41), 15-189.06.

# Master of Education (MEd)

## Concentration in Leadership of PreK-12 Educational Organizations

Degree candidates in the Leadership of PreK-12 Educational Organizations concentration have the opportunity to obtain the required knowledge, skills, and abilities through academics and hands-on practicum experiences in their work environment to pursue a Principal PreK-12 Certification in the State of Arizona, through the State Board of Education's alternate route approval.

### ACCREDITATION & AFFILIATIONS

American InterContinental University is a member in good standing of the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP). The Master of Education program has been awarded full accreditation by AAQEP through June 30, 2026. AAQEP is a membership association and quality assurance agency that provides accreditation services and formative support to all types of educator preparation providers. AAQEP is nationally recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

### INDUSTRY-FOCUSED CURRICULUM

The specialized curriculum in AIU's MEd-Leadership of PreK-12 Educational Organizations program is designed to expose candidates to real-world models in education by completing a hands-on practicum experience, utilizing eLearning tools, and the creation of an ePortfolio to demonstrate mastery of educational dispositions and Arizona Professional Administrative (AZPA) Standards.

### TAUGHT BY EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS

At AIU, candidates have access to faculty who have real-world experience in their field. The MEd-Leadership of PreK-12 Educational Organizations program is taught by a team of experienced professionals who bring their real-world perspectives into the classroom. This approach can help candidates better understand the qualities and skills utilized in today's adult education and e-learning industry.

The Arizona State Board of Education has approved this program as an Educator Preparation Program leading to educator certification. Upon program completion, AIU will submit its Institutional Recommendation to the Board; it is the candidate's responsibility to complete the certification process with the state.

### WE CAN HELP YOU LEARN HOW TO:

- Design educational content and programming that is appropriate to support learning for diverse audiences, contexts, global perspectives, and cultural responsiveness.
- Justify educational decision-making using educational theories, financial management, and scholarly research practices.
- Adapt advanced, discipline-appropriate professional and research communication skills for personal growth and stakeholder engagement.
- Employ professional dispositions appropriate for educational practice and leadership
- Implement instructional strategies and technologies to support learning (i.e., eLearning, distance learning, online learning, traditional learning, and hybrid learning).
- Analyze the impact of instructional design methodology and learning theories/sciences (social, emotional, and academic) on stakeholders for effectiveness of interventions and/or educational systems.
- Integrate continuous improvement, learner assessment, technology, eLearning, and evaluation plans based on data analysis.

OUTCOMES

REQUIRED COURSES

### CORE COURSES

MED 570	The Educational Leader	4.5
MED 571	Educational Standards and Ethics	4.5
MED 572	Leading Educational Organizations	4.5
MED 573	Researching School Resources	4.5
MED 574	School Finance	4.5
MED 575	Dynamic Educational Leadership	4.5
MED 576	School Law	4.5
MED 577	School Literacy, Assessment, and Evaluation	4.5
MED 578	Education Planning and Development	4.5
MED 579	Educational Leadership Capstone	4.5

### Total MEd Degree Requirements

45 credits

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AIU cannot guarantee employment, salary, or career advancement. Not all programs are available to residents of all states.  
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