Is It Right for You?

This program prepares educators who are or wish to become well-equipped scholarly practitioners (principals, superintendents or other leaders) to provide stewardship of the profession and meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Our doctoral students learn directly from professors who reflect best practices in the fields of education. Our Center for Practice-Engaged Educational Research (C-PEER), an educational R&D center, provides opportunities to work with real data sets and in teams with faculty and school leaders.

University of Colorado Denver’s EdD in Leadership for Educational Equity prepares exceptional leaders who set high standards and are equipped to problem-solve, innovate and improve learning outcomes for P-12 and postsecondary students and the wider community.

Intensive Real-World Experiences Create Opportunities

Our network of school and community partners, built over the past 25 years, provides the context for the EdD program. The physical location of CU Denver in the heart of the city provides unique opportunities for students, faculty and staff to engage with children and youth, families, schools, community colleges, businesses and non-profits, all with diverse perspectives and backgrounds. With their faculty mentors, EdD students work with real data sets and authentic observations and apply their leadership skills to create real-world solutions for change.

A Reputation that Opens Doors

We are nationally ranked among the top education schools in the country. One of our signature strengths is our focus on preparing educators, leaders and researchers to support diverse languages, cultures and abilities in the classroom.
The 54-credit-hour plan of study may be completed in a three-year or five-year track through blended-learning courses that use online activities coupled with face-to-face sessions offered evenings and weekends. The cohort model is designed for completion in three years, with two courses every semester including summer. Students who choose this faster path build up a valuable trusting community of peers with shared experiences and coursework. Students in the five-year track take only one course in the summer. This open cohort model creates a more fluid path to graduation with a larger group of peers in classes.

Curriculum
Core curriculum covers equity and diversity, leadership, learning theory, adult learning, technology and research methods. In addition to the core, students also choose an area of concentration:

- Early Childhood Special Education/Early Childhood Education
- Executive Leadership
- Latin@ Learners and Communities
- Professional Learning and Technology
- Urban and Diverse Communities

As the program capstone, you will complete a Dissertation in Practice – an inquiry project grounded in your local setting, intended to increase understanding and improve practice.

Commitment to Diversity and Social Justice
CU Denver resides in the center of a thriving urban setting. This creates a diverse university community, which promotes cross-cultural dialogue and educators who are prepared for the real world. The EdD program partners with diverse, urban schools and community organizations.

- We believe that all students, diverse in race, ethnicity, economic resources, language, fluency, abilities, geography, first-generation status, age, gender and sexual identities, deserve access to an excellent education. Our academic programs and curriculum reflect this philosophy of inclusion and social justice.
- A large number of our faculty members speak Spanish. Their knowledge and skills enhance our students’ ability to serve culturally diverse and underrepresented individuals and families.

This program begins once a year in the summer with an application deadline of December 1.

Please review the concentration area choices on our website. Prior to submitting your application, you should schedule at least one appointment with a faculty member associated with your concentration of interest to discuss your concentration area and research area of interest. The doctoral faculty may request a personal interview to complement the information provided in the application materials.

Minimum requirements
- Master’s degree or equivalent
- 3.2 GPA in graduate-level coursework (recommended)
- Five or more years of experience in an educational P-20 or community-based context

International Students
International students may begin the admissions process and learn about international student deadlines, applications and admissions requirements by visiting international.ucdenver.edu/admissions.

Apply Now
Website: ucdenver.edu/education
303.315.6300
Financial aid: ucdenver.edu/education/scholarships

CU Denver provides a quality academic experience through engagement with gifted faculty members, exposure to original research and real-world learning. Located in the heart of downtown, CU Denver offers its 14,000 students unparalleled internship, career and networking opportunities. Part of the fabric of the city, CU Denver has evolved into a leading urban public campus boasting eight schools and colleges. CU Denver is committed to providing students opportunities to enhance their lives and careers and to learn with purpose. For more information on CU Denver, please visit us at www.ucdenver.edu.

The School of Education & Human Development at the University of Colorado Denver attracts students who are passionate about careers in teaching and mental health. We match their passion with an education that is rooted in diversity, technology, proven approaches and real-world practice. That’s why our graduates are prepared to make immediate and life-long impacts on people, communities and the world. Email education@ucdenver.edu for more information.