



The University of Texas  
Rio Grande Valley™

## Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership Program

### About the Program

The Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership program is UTRGV's commitment to provide educational leaders with the knowledge and skills to make educational institutions better places for children, youth, and adults of all ages.

The program leads to a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Leadership emphasizing preparation for careers in a variety of educational settings: K-12, community college, or university.

<https://www.utrgv.edu/osl/degree-programs/traditional-programs/edu-lead-edd/index.htm>

This program is part of the Carnegie Project on Education Doctorate.

### Doctoral Student Testimonials

“Participating and completing the Educational Leadership Doctoral program was a rewarding experience and facilitated my professional and personal growth. The faculty have become lifelong mentors and provided us with inspiration and encouragement. I urge all professionals seeking a terminal degree to consider this program.”  
— Dr. Liz Silva, Part-Time Lecturer, UTRGV

“The Ed.D. program provides students the opportunity to learn from practitioners in the K-16 educational system. The program is affordable, and the evening classes did not take time away from my full-time employment. One of the best experiences was the collegiality and camaraderie I witnessed and developed with the faculty and my colleagues in the program. A sense of belonging and helping each other was profound from the moment I began the program, and this was not just amongst the cohort I started the program with, but this was the case with all students I interacted with. It is a life experience that will allow you to reach your fullest potential, both personally and career-wise.”

— Dr. Griselda C. Castilla, Associate Vice President for Strategic Enrollment, UTRGV

Submit a UTRGV Graduate Application at [utrgv.edu/gradapply](https://www.utrgv.edu/gradapply)



# Why UTRGV?

- The Educational Leadership Doctoral Program has a diverse faculty with vast experience in practice, teaching, research and service, who work diligently to serve our students.
- The degree completion rate by student cohort vary from 57% to 89%, which is above the national average, and time to graduation vary from 3 to 10 years.
- The program offers specializations in higher education administration, special education and a needs-based variation, e.g., courses related to superintendency.
- Education at UTRGV is affordable compared to many other universities. The graduate residence tuition and fees for 6 credit hours during Fall and Spring semesters is \$2,875.58 (Fall 2022). The link to the tuition table to find current tuition and fees is :

[utrgv.edu/tuition](http://utrgv.edu/tuition)

## Scholarship and Financial Aid Opportunities:

- Scholarships: [utrgv.edu/applyscholarships](http://utrgv.edu/applyscholarships)
- \$1,000 Graduate Select Scholarship: [utrgv.edu/selectscholarship](http://utrgv.edu/selectscholarship)
- Financial Aid: [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)
- Graduate Resource Grant: [utrgv.edu/resourcegrant](http://utrgv.edu/resourcegrant)
- Workstudy: [utrgv.edu/workstudy](http://utrgv.edu/workstudy)
- Assistantships: [careers.utrgv.edu](http://careers.utrgv.edu)
- Veterans Benefits: [utrgv.edu/veterans/](http://utrgv.edu/veterans/)

For further funding information for graduate students, visit <https://www.utrgv.edu/graduate/funding/index.htm>

## For More Information

Dr. Marie Simonsson  
(956) 665-7388

[marie.simonsson@utrgv.edu](mailto:marie.simonsson@utrgv.edu)

# How to Apply:

**Step #1:** Submit a UTRGV Graduate Application at [www.utrgv.edu/gradapply](http://www.utrgv.edu/gradapply). There is no application fee.

**Step #2:** Request your official transcripts to be sent electronically to [gradapps@utrgv.edu](mailto:gradapps@utrgv.edu) or mailed to:

**The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
The Graduate College  
Marialice Shary Shivers Bldg. 1.158  
1201 W. University Drive  
Edinburg, TX 78539-2999**

\*Please Note: If you are a graduate of UTPA, UTB/TSC, or UTRGV you do not need to request an official transcript to be sent to the Graduate College.

## Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the doctoral program in educational leadership, prospective candidates must first meet all requirements for graduate admission to UT Rio Grande Valley, as well as the other requirements listed below:

1. Master's degree in Education or related field with a minimum GPA of 3.00
2. Three professional letters of recommendation from academic and professional sources
3. Personal statement maximum of five pages double spaced, including the following headings: Purpose for Pursuing an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership; Description of Professional Goals; and Commitment and Dedication
4. Resume showing professional presentations, publications, grants, recognitions, (e.g., honors and awards for leadership, teaching, academics), five years full-time leadership, supervisory experiences or classroom experience in an educational setting (college/university level, school/district), leadership activity in community organizations, professional associations, or community service
5. Participation of finalists in the program's Assessment Center, to evaluate the applicant's verbal, written, and analytical skills

Application for admission must be submitted prior to the published deadline.

## Deadline to Apply:

- Fall: February 1
- Spring: August 1st