The University of Northern Colorado has an unmatched reputation in the state for training teachers to move into administrative roles in education. If you desire to make a difference in educational settings, UNC’s Master of Arts in Educational Leadership can help you achieve your career goals.

You will learn about:

- Leadership roles and responsibilities
- Professional development
- Organizational behavior
- The fiscal, legal and personnel aspects of education
- Applying theory to practice to address issues such as the achievement gap, school climate and culture, and how to engage parents to promote student achievement

The master’s in Educational Leadership focuses solely on P-12 leadership and administration to prepare educators to assume administrative roles upon program completion, including assistant principal, principal, athletic director and a variety of district-level positions.

Faculty members use a variety of teaching methods to make your training practical and relevant, including role playing, Socratic dialogues, simulations, group projects and other activities that are directly related to education administration. Each faculty member has experience in school and/or district leadership that enables them to fully understand and assist educators in school reform efforts. Courses are offered in the evenings, weekends and during the summer to accommodate the schedules of busy, full-time educators.

This degree has a 30-credit requirement, culminating in a comprehensive exam. On average, students complete this program in one and a half years.

Principal and Administrator Non-Degree Licensures

You may pursue a master’s in Educational Leadership while working concurrently on a principal or administrator license. The licensure programs consist of nine courses (27 credit hours) and the master’s program requires only one research course beyond the principal and administrator licensure requirements.

“I began the Educational Leadership master’s program after moving to Colorado from Arizona last summer. In May, I will have completed the courses for both my principal and special education director licenses. This is my second master's degree; I have learned more practical information through my courses and from my professors at UNC than in any of my previous graduate courses. My professors all care about their areas of focus, and the projects that they assign have helped me in my profession. I am currently working as a Dean of Students and feel extremely prepared for my position, as well as for one as an assistant principal.”

— Abby Himlie
Dean of Students at Mountain View High School in Loveland, Colo.
The Graduate School

The Graduate School at the University of Northern Colorado helps you further your academic or professional career with small class sizes, topnotch faculty, sophisticated facilities and affordable tuition in 100-plus programs of study.

We offer master's, doctoral and educational specialist programs in addition to many certificate programs available through on-campus, off-campus and online delivery.

How to Get Started

More information online
www.unco.edu/grad/inquire

Contact the Educational Leadership Program
Graduate Coordinator
Linda Vogel
linda.vogel@unco.edu
970-351-2119

Graduate School Admissions
www.unco.edu/grad
970-351-2831
grad.school@unco.edu

Unique facts

• Collectively, full-time faculty members have more than 30 years of experience as K-12 administrators ranging from assistant principal to assistant superintendent.
• In recent years, UNC's program has been nationally ranked by the U.S. News and World Report.