



Graduate School

Educational Leadership

Master of Arts, Educational Specialist, Educational Doctorate



Prepare to Take the Next Step

Gain the skills to successfully lead educational organizations at all levels. All the degrees in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS) are structured to develop in aspiring and practicing educational leaders the requisite skillset necessary to effectively address educational challenges in the 21st century and create a school culture where all students can reach their academic potential. In addition, the ELPS program offers students affordable tuition, flexible scheduling options designed for working professionals and internship opportunities that can be completed at a student's worksite.

At UNC, students will work closely with an ELPS faculty that combines extensive experience as P-12 administrators, ranging from assistant principal to central office leadership, with an impressive array of scholarly accomplishments. Students will find this balance between practical educational experience and scholarly accomplishments beneficial in their development of leadership skills and abilities. As a member of the University Council for Educational Administration, which is the leading national association for the preparation of educational leaders, the ELPS program at UNC offers many unique networking and scholarly opportunities to its graduate students.

Career Pathway

Whether you are bound for a doctoral program or for the work force, you'll get excellent preparation for future success in areas such as:

- Building-level leadership: principal, assistant principal, athletic director, dean of students
- Central office leadership: directors (in all different departments), assistant superintendent, superintendent
- Teacher-led opportunities: department chair, building leadership team
- Degrees appropriate for public and private school settings

Degree Options

- Master of Arts - 30 credits, includes principal licensure
- Educational Specialist - 30 credits, includes principal licensure, designed for those who already have a master's degree
- Educational Doctorate - 64 credits
- Doctoral Minor - 15 credits

Program Details

- Greeley Campus Delivery
- Extended Campus, multiple delivery and start terms, more at [EXTENDED.UNCO.EDU](https://www.extended.unco.edu)
- Credits Required: 30-64, depending on level of degree
- Time to completion: M.A./Ed.S., two years; Ed.D., four years

go.unco.edu/ed-leader

Related Programs

- Educational Leadership and Special Education Administration, Ed.S.
- Educational Leadership and Special Education Administration - with Dual Licensure as a Principal and Special Education Director, M.A.
- Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership, M.A., Ph.D.

Cost and Value

Tuition rates are based on the 2021-22 Academic Year:

Colorado Resident Tuition: M.A. and Ed.S., \$633; Ed.D., \$685 per credit hour, plus fees.

Nonresident Tuition: M.A. and Ed.S., \$1,185; Ed.D., \$1,296 per credit hour plus fees.

Extended Campus: M.A. and Ed.S., \$618; Ed.D., \$659 per credit hour.

UNC is regularly called out as a top value for both resident and nonresident students, and the university offers financial aid packages for qualified students. For more information, visit [UNCO.EDU/COSTS](https://unco.edu/costs).

Faculty Spotlight

Linda Vogel, Ph.D.

Noted educator, researcher and author, Linda Vogel, Ph.D., is dedicated to the development of socially just, culturally responsive educational policies. As a former high school and middle school principal, she implemented several service learning and community anti-bullying and harassment programs, and worked with large urban districts on building internal leadership capacity and minority leader recruitment. She has since conducted research on state education policy implementation, standards-based assessment and school finance, and developed state-wide training for the supervision of certified staff.



What Graduates Say

"The professors led wonderful interactive sessions that made me feel part of a class and not so isolated. Group projects allowed for deeper collaboration and development of friendships with our colleagues. The opportunity to earn my master's degree completely online was wonderful."

Samantha Yocam, Educational Leadership, M.A. graduate

Financing your Education

UNC offers a variety of financial support options, including:

- Several competitive assistantships
- Colorado resident tuition for students from 15 western states is offered through the Western Regional Graduate Program. To see if you qualify visit [UNCO.EDU/GRADUATE-SCHOOL/FUNDING/WESTERN-REGIONAL-GRADUATE-PROGRAM.ASPX](https://unco.edu/graduate-school/funding/western-regional-graduate-program.aspx)
- For more information contact Financial Aid at [UNCO.EDU/OFA](mailto:unco.edu/ofa).

Program Contact

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About UNC Graduate School

The University of Northern Colorado, founded in 1889, is Colorado's right-sized doctoral research university, serving a diverse student body around the world. Given its size, program mix, and mission, UNC offers students the access and opportunities of a small college along with the nationally recognized programs, research funding and facilities that come with being a leading U.S. university. Students seeking preparation for a world (and workplace) full of opportunities and options, complexities and cultures, diversity and demands, will find faculty mentors and excited fellow students to engage with here at UNC.