

For:

Professional educators with at least three years of relevant professional experience in an educational setting related to the instructional process who wish to enter into a leadership position as a principal in a K-12 school.

What you learn:

The mission of Point Park University's Master of Education in School Leadership program is to prepare professional educators for leadership positions as school administrators or principals. We will achieve this by advancing professional knowledge that supports the intellectual, social, and personal development of learners; integrating leadership and supervisory theories and skills with problem solving and decision making models; encouraging collaboration, communication, professional development, and responsible management of educational programs and resources; and conducting educational research that enhances organizational effectiveness.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online courseroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in approximately 2 years.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned an M.Ed. in School Leadership and be eligible for certification as a K-12 School Principal in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 542	Issues in Law and Education	3
EDUC 547	Actionable Leadership	3
EDUC	Elective	3
EDUC	Elective	3
EDUC 538	Educational Administration	3
EDUC 545	The Principalship	3
EDUC 546	Clinical Supervision and Leadership	3
EDUC 549	Applied Research Practicum I: School Administrator-School Principal K-12	3
EDUC 550	Applied Research Practicum II: School Administrator-School Principal K-12	3
SPED 634	Leadership for Differentiated Instructional Practices	3
Total Hours		30

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education requires candidates to apply for certification on the Teacher Information Management System (TIMS) to:

- Provide a chief school administrator's verification of the completion of a minimum of three years of public school professional experience in an instructional area
- TESTS FOR CERTIFICATION: Check PDE Test Requirements: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education/programs-and-services/educators/certification/certification-testing>
- Be recommended for certification by the authorized certification officer or person who holds a comparable certificate from another state.

For:

Professional educators with at least three years of relevant professional experience in an educational setting related to the instructional process **who already hold a Master's degree in Education** and who wish to enter into a leadership position as a principal in a K-12 school.

What you learn:

The mission of Point Park University's School Principal Certification program is to prepare professional educators for leadership positions as school administrators or principals. We will achieve this by advancing professional knowledge that supports the intellectual, social, and personal development of learners; integrating leadership and supervisory theories and skills with problem solving and decision making models; encouraging collaboration, communication, professional development, and responsible management of educational programs and resources; and conducting educational research that enhances organizational effectiveness.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online courseroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in approximately 1 year.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned a graduate-level certificate and will be eligible for certification as a K-12 School Principal in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Certification Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 545	The Principalship	3
EDUC 538	Educational Administration	3
EDUC 549	Applied Research Practicum I: School Administrator - School Principal K-12	3
EDUC 546	Clinical Supervision and Leadership	3
SPED 534	Differentiated Instructional Practices	3
EDUC 550	Applied Research Practicum II: School Administrator - School Principal K-12	3
Total Hours		18

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Successful completion of the assigned Praxis exam is required for certification. Please be aware that it is the student's responsibility to regularly review the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) website for the most up-to-date testing requirements specific to your certification area, as PDE does make periodic changes to the requirements. For detailed information, please refer to the PDE Testing Requirement Link: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education/programs-and-services/educators/certification/help/quick-reference-for-applicants.html>

In order to receive certification at the end of the program, candidates must provide a chief school administrator's verification of the completion of a minimum of three years of professional experience in an instructional area and must be recommended for certification by the Point Park University authorized certification officer.

For:

Professional educators seeking a Master's in Education in Learning, Design, and Technology along with an Instructional Technology Specialist Certificate, Online Instruction Endorsement, and AI Endorsement.

What you learn:

The program prepares students to design, facilitate, manage, and evaluate digital instruction in online, hybrid, and remote settings – the fastest growing segments of education and training in the 21st century. Course work equips students to effectively use hardware/software, integrate technology into lessons, facilitate learner-centered activities, and develop interactive professional development programs in a wide range of learning organizations.

Scholarly research, interactive learning, and inclusive participation are required of all students.

This program has course embedded to earn an Instructional Technology Specialist Certification, AI Endorsement and an Online Instruction Endorsement for Pennsylvania certified K-12 teachers or credentialed teachers in states that have reciprocity with Pennsylvania may earn an along with Masters in Education.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online classroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. The program is comprised of 36 credit hours, including a Practicum course in which students work with certified Instructional Technologists in schools, districts, or intermediate units. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average throughout the course of study to be able to continue in the program. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in a little over 2 years.

Career Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Synthesize learning theory, design methods, and technology resources to address the learning needs of diverse populations in a variety of educational and training settings
2. Develop and implement effective instructional and learning strategies that incorporate multimedia principles, copyright compliance, and digital accessibility for use in online and remote instruction environments
3. Integrate instructional design and technology into curricular planning and direct instruction for multiple settings
4. Design and execute plans for conducting administrative activities related to online learning initiatives including needs analysis, strategic planning, and program evaluation
5. Apply management and leadership skills from current research to a variety of online educational settings
6. Apply qualitative and quantitative research methods as evidence-based practice to solve problems in online education settings
7. Assess teaching and technology resources for educational and training settings
8. Apply nationally recognized, established research-based standards for quality teaching, design and learning

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 504	Instructional Methods for Digital Teaching and Learning	3
EDUC 528	Assessment and Evaluation of Online Teaching and Learning	3
EDUC 534	Online Teaching: Design and Delivery	3
EDUC 590	AI Foundations and Applications	3
EDUC 543	Learning Technologies for Educators	3
EDUC 591	AI Literacy, Teaching and Assessment	3
EDUC 580	Instructional Technology Administration and Management	3
EDUC 592	AI Leadership and Innovation	3
EDUC 581	Innovative Instruction and Leadership	3
EDUC 593	AI Ethics, Human and Social Issues Capstone	3
EDUC 603	MEd -Field Work	3
EDUC 604	MEd -Practicum	3
Total Hours		36

Note: Students who enroll in the M.Ed. program may, at the discretion of the School of Education, transfer up to 6 graduate credits from other institutions provided those credits carry a grade of B or above. Courses with grades of B- or below will not be accepted. Only graduate credits from courses relevant to the Learning, Design, and Technology program will be accepted, as determined by the Director of the Graduate Studies in the School of Education. Students who enroll in the Instructional Technology Specialist program may transfer up to 3 credits. There are no transfer credits permitted for the for Online Instruction Endorsement.

Graduation requirements for the M.Ed. program include: Successfully completing 10 required courses in the program with a GPA of 2.75 or higher, and no grade in any course lower than a C. Completing a capstone practicum experience.

For:

Candidates with an undergraduate degree seeking certification as an Instructional Technology Specialist

What you learn:

The Instructional Technology Specialist certificate area includes the science involved in the application of knowledge and competency required for the use of instructional technology as it pertains to aiding staff/administration in educational school settings.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online classroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. The program is comprised of 15 credit hours, including a Practicum course in which students work with certified Instructional Technologists in schools, districts, or intermediate units. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average throughout the course of study to be able to continue in the program. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in 10 months.

Career Outcomes:

A person holding a valid PA certificate for Instructional Technology Specialist is qualified to provide technology information to district staff and administrators at grades PK-12.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 543	Learning Technologies for Educators	3
EDUC 504	Instructional Methods for Digital Teaching and Learning	3
EDUC 534	Online Teaching: Design and Delivery	3
EDUC 580	Instructional Technology Administration and Management	3
EDUC 604	Practicum in K-12 Schools in Learning, Design, and Technology	3
Total Hours		15

Note: Graduation requirements for the Instructional Technology Specialist Certification program include: 1) Successfully completing 5 required courses in the program with a GPA of 2.75 or higher, and no grade in any course lower than a C. 2) Completing a capstone practicum experience.

For:

Professional educators seeking an Online Instruction Endorsement.

What you learn:

Courses are designed to address the specific set of issues, knowledge and competencies that are relevant to teaching and learning in an online environment.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online classroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. The program is comprised of 12 credit hours. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average throughout the course of study to be able to continue in the program. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in 8 months.

Career Outcomes:

Candidates will be able to successfully implement online instruction and become familiar, or strengthen their familiarity, with instructional technology tools to accomplish the curricular goals in online courses.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 543	Learning Technologies for Educators	3
EDUC 504	Instructional Methods for Digital Teaching and Learning	3
EDUC 534	Online Teaching: Design and Delivery	3
EDUC 603	Field work in K-12 Schools in Learning, Design, and Technology	3
Total Hours		12

Note: Graduation requirements for the Online Instruction Endorsement program include: 1) Successfully completing 5 required courses in the program with a GPA of 2.75 or higher, and no grade in any course lower than a C. 2) Completing a capstone field experience course that appropriately synthesizes and applies program instruction in a real world context. Candidates will work with program advisors to secure a K-12 school partner for this experience. The experience can be tailored and differentiated to match the candidates' professional goals related to their desired role(s) within a K-12 system. The field experience will contain adequate rigor that both demonstrates practical application of coursework as well as provide new opportunities for professional growth.

For:

Pennsylvania certified teachers seeking certification in Grades PreK-12 Special Education and a M.A. in Special Education.

What you learn:

The Master of Arts in Special Education leading to Pennsylvania Grades PreK-12 Special Education certification program is designed for certified teachers with an undergraduate degree who want to increase their marketability and prepare more fully to meet the challenges of today's inclusive schools.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required on-campus, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online courseroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in approximately 1 1/2 years.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program and the passing of the assigned PECT Exam, students will have earned a M.A. in Special Education and be eligible to teach Special Education in a PreK-12 grade setting in the state of Pennsylvania.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
SPED 535	Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports	3
SPED 520	Instructional/Assistive Technology and Universal Design	3
SPED 536	High Incidence Disabilities	3
SPED 537	Low Incidence Disabilities	3
SPED 534	Differentiated Instructional Practices	3
SPED 540	Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
SPED 542	Intensive Reading, Writing and Mathematics Interventions	3
SPED 538	Secondary Transition Processes and Procedures	3
EDUC 541	Culturally Responsive Schools, Teachers and Classrooms	3
SPED 550	Student Practicum Experience	3
Total Hours		30

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Successful completion of the PECT test from Pearson for Special Education by the Pennsylvania Department of Education is required for certification.

To earn PreK-12 Special Education certification, candidates must hold a valid PA teaching certificate at the elementary, PreK-4, 4-8, Early Childhood, Elementary Education, Middle Grades Education, or Secondary Education. All candidates must be recommended for certification by Point Park University's authorized certification officer.

For:

Non-certified teachers seeking initial certification in Grades PreK-12 Special Education and a M.Ed. in Special Education.

What you learn:

The Master of Education in Special Education leading to Pennsylvania Grades PreK-12 Special Education certification program is designed for non-certified teachers with an undergraduate degree who wish to earn their initial teaching certification in Grades PreK-12 Special Education.

How you learn:

Point Park's online programs are offered in a cohort format with courses being 8 weeks long in a predetermined course sequence and are asynchronous for your convenience. Observation and field experience requirements are built into many of the courses, so students should expect to spend time in classrooms for this initial certification.

Online students have access to the same great benefits as those on campus, including Point Park faculty with real-world experience, small online class sizes for individualized attention, a full spectrum of University resources, and a student success advisor offering support from application to graduation, who will guide you to successfully complete your degree.

Every student teacher will satisfy the PDE requirement of a student teaching experience, including at least 30 instructional days in a PA school, during the final term of the program (15-week full time school hours).

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program and the passing of the assigned PECT Exam, students will have earned a M.Ed. in Special Education and be eligible to teach Special Education in a PreK-12 grade setting in the state of Pennsylvania.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
SPED 533	Special Education and Inclusive Practices	3
EDUC 541	Culturally Responsive Schools, Teachers, and Classrooms	3
SPED 535	Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports	3
SPED 520	Instructional/Assistive Technology and Universal Design	3
SPED 536	High Incidence Disabilities	3
SPED 537	Low Incidence Disabilities	3
SPED 534	Differentiated Instruction Practices	3
SPED 540	Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
EDUC 567	Methods of Teaching English Language Learners in the Content Areas	3
SPED 542	Intensive Reading, Writing and Mathematics Interventions	3
SPED 538	Secondary Transition Processes and Procedures	3
EDUC 624	Student Teaching Seminar	3
EDUC 625	Student Teaching Practicum	3
Total Hours		42

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Successful completion of the PECT test from Pearson for Special Education by the Pennsylvania Department of Education is required for certification

All candidates must be recommended for certification by Point Park University's authorized certification officer.

For:

Professional educators who are seeking certification as a PA K-12 Reading Specialist.

What you learn:

You will learn enhanced reading skills that will enable you to work one-to-one or in small groups with students that are experiencing difficulty reading at grade level. You will obtain the necessary skills to assess students' reading abilities, identifying deficiencies and creating intervention plans for grade-level students who have been identified in need of additional reading help. The courses will strengthen your ability to teach reading and enable you to work school wide or district wide coaching other teachers in effective reading practices. In addition to assessment and intervention of students with reading deficiencies, you will learn about teaching Reading in the Content Areas, the Reading and Writing Connection, and the skills needed to coach other teachers in the classroom.

Receiving your Reading Specialist Certification will also enhance your capacity in the job market by opening other educational avenues. Obtaining the credits for Reading Specialist can also be applied toward gaining permanent certification.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online classroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in approximately 16 months.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will be eligible for certification as a K-12 Reading Specialist from the state of Pennsylvania by passing the assigned Praxis exam through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Certification Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 515	Foundations of Literacy	3
EDUC 516	Reading and Writing Content	3
EDUC 517	Literature and Literacy	3
EDUC 518	Literacy Assessment	3
EDUC 519	Roles of Reading Specialist	3
EDUC 524	Content Area Design & Instruction	3
EDUC 536	Research Methods	3
EDUC 569	Reading Specialist Practicum	3
Total Hours		24

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Please be aware that it is the student's responsibility to regularly review the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) website for the most up-to-date testing requirements specific to your certification area, as PDE does make periodic changes to the requirements. For detailed information, please refer to the PDE Testing Requirement Link: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education/programs-and-services/educators/certification/help/quick-reference-for-applicants.html>

For:

Professional educators who wish to earn a Master's in Reading and Literacy and those seeking certification as a Reading Specialist through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

What you learn:

The objectives of Point Park University's M.Ed. in Reading and Literacy program are to provide professional educators with a thorough understanding of educational theories while emphasizing collaborative, hands-on, learning using appropriate technologies; to prepare professional educators to develop curricula for content areas that incorporate diverse learner populations and settings across the lifespan; to prepare professional educators to develop appropriate and effective instructional methods which address the needs of diverse student populations across content areas and in a variety of classroom settings; and to prepare professional educators to successfully address contemporary educational issues such as: effective classroom and behavior management, diversity issues, learning styles and differentiated instruction, and integration of technology across the curriculum.

You will learn enhanced reading skills that will enable you to work one-to-one or in small groups with students that are experiencing difficulty reading at grade level. You will obtain the necessary skills to assess students' reading abilities, identifying deficiencies and creating intervention plans for grade-level students who have been identified in need of additional reading help. The courses will strengthen your ability to teach reading and enable you to work school wide or district wide coaching other teachers in effective reading practices. In addition to assessment and intervention of students with reading deficiencies, you will learn about teaching Reading in the Content Areas, the Reading and Writing Connection, and the skills needed to coach other teachers in the classroom. Receiving your Reading Specialist Certification will also enhance your capacity in the job market by opening other educational avenues. Obtaining the credits for Reading Specialist can also be applied toward gaining permanent certification.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online classroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. One 3-credit practicum course is included in your course schedule, where you will be responsible for completing the mandated number of observation hours required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education prior to certification. These hours will need to be completed in a reading clinic with a practicing reading specialist. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in approximately 1.5 years.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned an M.Ed. in Reading and Literacy and be eligible for certification as a K-12 Reading Specialist from the state of Pennsylvania by passing the assigned Praxis exam through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Choose Your Pathway

All Master's in Reading and Literacy students take 18 credits of literacy and reading specialist courses. For the final four courses, students can choose one of two pathways:

Reading Research Pathway

The Reading Research Pathway provides educators and related professionals with comprehensive preparation in reading and literacy instruction. This traditional pathway is grounded in structured literacy and emphasizes reading research, assessment, and evidence-based instructional practices. It is designed for individuals who wish to develop broad expertise in literacy instruction and support students with a range of reading abilities and learning needs.

Wilson Reading System® Level I Certification Pathway

This certificate provides educators and related professionals with comprehensive preparation in the Wilson Reading System® (WRS) at Level I. It is designed for individuals who wish to develop expertise in structured literacy instruction, particularly for students with dyslexia or other language-based learning differences. **Please note that there is an additional fee beyond graduate tuition for the WRS certification courses.**

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Please be aware that it is the student's responsibility to regularly review the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) website for the most up-to-date testing requirements specific to your certification area, as PDE does make periodic changes to the requirements. For detailed information, please refer to the PDE Testing Requirement Link: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education/programs-and-services/educators/certification/help/quick-reference-for-applicants.html>

Students will need to complete a 3 credit practicum course in a reading clinic with a practicing reading specialist to satisfy Pennsylvania Department of Education requirements pertaining to field experience and observation hours prior to certification.

For:

Professional educators who wish to earn a Master's degree and those seeking leadership roles in the 21st century school.

What you learn:

As current educational research strongly emphasizes the critical role of teacher leadership in the success of today's schools, this program is designed to assist teachers to enhance their instructional skills, while playing the critical role of change agents within the teaching profession. This program will provide the knowledge base and experiences to enable our graduate students to meet these challenges.

Students will complete six core courses and then have the opportunity to choose 4 elective courses in their chosen content area (EDUC/SPED) that can be applied to a future certification program

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online courseroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in approximately 1.5 years.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned an M.Ed. in Teaching and Leadership.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 524	Content Area Design and Instruction	3
EDUC 525	Human Behavior & Classroom Management	3
EDUC 531	Emerging Teacher Leadership	3
EDUC 533	Evolving School Landscapes	3
EDUC 535	Technological Applications	3
EDUC 541	Culturally Responsive Schools	3
EDUC/SPED	Elective - Student's Choice	3
EDUC/SPED	Elective - Student's Choice	3
EDUC/SPED	Elective - Student's Choice	3
EDUC/SPED	Elective - Student's Choice	3
Total Hours		30

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

For:

Present coaches or individuals with athletic experience looking to assume responsibilities in their future or present employment as coaching assistants, coaches, or working with athletes of any age.

What you learn:

This program will provide significant influence in a field that requires coaches to be able to administer, teach, support, and create programs for athletes that adhere to the National Standards for Sport Coaches, established and published by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education. The M.Ed. in Athletic Coaching will be framed by these standards, which encompass domains that include both scientific and practical components expected by administrators, athletes, and the public.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. No face-to-face class meetings are required, but students will be engaged in an active and engaging online classroom environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in approximately 1 1/2 years. Courses are taught by faculty who have years of real-world experience in coaching, teaching, physical education, sports psychology and educational administration.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of the program, students will earn an M.Ed. in Athletic Coaching and be able to apply what they've learned to present or future coaching positions in school districts or at institutions of higher learning.

According to the National Bureau of Labor Statistics, athletic coaching is a field growing nationally, as well as locally, with recent surveys indicating that approximately 10,000 coaches and scouts are employed in western Pennsylvania.

Graduates with a M.Ed. in Athletic Coaching will be prepared for coaching opportunities in various settings including:

- K-12 public or private schools
- Colleges and universities
- Club and travel sports programs
- Professional sports teams

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 505	The Art and Science of Athletic Coaching	3
EDUC 507	Safety and Physical Conditioning of Athletes	3
EDUC 509	Diversity and Ethical Responsibility in Athletics	3
EDUC 513	Supervision and Evaluation of Athletes	3
EDUC 510	Administration and Financial Responsibilities of Athletics	3
EDUC 511	Communication Skills for Athletics	3
EDUC 508	Sports Psychology	3
EDUC 504	Marketing and Branding in Athletics	3
EDUC 512	Research: Contemporary Theory to Current Practice	3
EDUC 514	Practicum	3
Total Hours		30

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

For:

Professional educators with at least six years of relevant professional experience in an educational setting related to the instructional process and who wish to enter into a leadership position as a Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent in a K-12 district. In order to receive certification at the end of the program, candidates must provide verification of the completion of a minimum of six years of professional experience in an instructional area (at least three of the six years should be at the administrative level). The candidate also must be recommended for certification by the Point Park University authorized certification officer.

What you learn:

The mission of Point Park University's Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent Letter of Eligibility Certification program is to prepare professional educators for leadership positions on a district level as Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent. We will achieve this by advancing professional knowledge that supports the intellectual, social, and personal development of learners; integrating leadership and supervisory theories and skills with problem solving and decision-making models; encouraging collaboration, communication, professional development, and responsible management of educational programs and resources; and conducting educational research that enhances organizational effectiveness. This program will expand upon the Total Leader 2.0 Leadership Model as developed by Charles Schwan and William Spady.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. Students will be engaged in an active and engaging interactive online environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in one year. Embedded in each course will be a number of required field experiences that are required by PDE for certification.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will be eligible for certification as an Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent in the state of Pennsylvania. Administrators are eligible to receive Act 45 credit by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The Superintendent Letter of Eligibility also allows recipients to hold positions outside of the superintendent/assistant superintendent position, such as curriculum coordinator, department supervisor, intermediate unit director, or pupil services director.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 570	Art and Science of Authenticity	3
EDUC 571	Art and Science of Visionary Leadership	3
EDUC 572	Art and Science of Cultural/Relational Leadership	3
EDUC 573	Art and Science of Quality/Capacity Leadership	3
EDUC 574	Art and Science of Systems and Service Leadership	3
EDUC 575	Art and Science of Communication in Leadership	3
Total Hours		18

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Successful completion of the assigned Praxis exam is required for certification. Please be aware that it is the student's responsibility to regularly review the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) website for the most up-to-date testing requirements specific to your certification area, as PDE does make periodic changes to the requirements. For detailed information, please refer to the PDE Testing Requirement Link: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education/programs-and-services/educators/certification/help/quick-reference-for-applicants.html>

For:

Aspiring educators seeking a Master's degree in Education and teaching certification in grades PreK-4.

What you learn:

- 1) Utilize a variety of instructional strategies.
- 2) Develop instructional plans and set goals based on the content to be taught /learned, knowledge of assigned students, and the instructional process.
- 3) Establish and maintain purposeful and equitable classroom environments
- 4) Demonstrate integrity, ethical behavior and professional conduct as stated in the Pennsylvania Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators.

How you learn:

Point Park's online programs are offered in a cohort format with courses being 8 weeks long in a predetermined course sequence and are asynchronous for your convenience. Observation and field experience requirements are built into many of the courses, so students should expect to spend time in classrooms for this initial certification.

Online students have access to the same great benefits as those on campus, including Point Park faculty with real-world experience, small online class sizes for individualized attention, a full spectrum of University resources, and a student success advisor offering support from application to graduation, who will guide you to successfully complete your degree.

Every student teacher will satisfy the PDE requirement of a student teaching experience, including at least 30 instructional days in a PA school, during the final term of the program (15-week full time school hours).

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned a Master's in Education and will be eligible for certification as a PreK-4 grade level educator in the state of Pennsylvania.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
SPED 533	Special Education and Inclusive Practices	3
EDUC 541	Culturally Responsive Schools, Teachers, and Classrooms	3
SPED 535	Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports	3
EDUC 567	Methods of Teaching English Language Learners in the Content Areas	3
EDUC 515	Foundations of Literacy and Writing from Theory to Practice: Models of Literacy	3
EDUC 564	Methods of Teaching Social Studies PreK-4	3
EDUC 503	Assessment for Differentiated Reading Instruction	3
SPED 534	Differentiated Instructional Practices in the Inclusive Classroom	3
EDUC 529	Assessment Strategies and Data Driven Instruction	3
EDUC 562	Methods of Teaching Mathematics PreK-4	3
EDUC 563	Methods of Teaching Science and Health PreK-4	3
EDUC 624	Student Teaching Seminar	3
EDUC 625	Student Teaching Practicum	6
Total Hours		42

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Successful completion of the assigned Praxis exam is required for certification. Please be aware that it is the student's responsibility to regularly review the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) website for the most up-to-date testing requirements specific to your certification area, as PDE does make periodic changes to the requirements. For detailed information, please refer to the PDE Testing Requirement Link: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education/programs-and-services/educators/certification/help/quick-reference-for-applicants.html>

For:

Aspiring educators seeking a Master's degree in Secondary Education and certification in grades 7-12.

What you learn:

- 1) Integrate academic content courses in your chosen subject area (biological sciences, citizenship, English, mathematics or social studies) with courses in education.
- 2) Explore subjects like assessment and adaptations, technological literacy for teaching, literacy and learning in secondary school, in-depth content area exploration and have a student teaching practicum.
- 3) Benefit from state-of-the-art resources and a variety of choices for student teaching placements, which will prepare you to teach most anywhere.

How you learn:

Point Park's online programs are offered in a cohort format with courses being 8 weeks long in a predetermined course sequence and are asynchronous for your convenience. Observation and field experience requirements are built into many of the courses, so students should expect to spend time in classrooms for this initial certification.

Online students have access to the same great benefits as those on campus, including Point Park faculty with real-world experience, small online class sizes for individualized attention, a full spectrum of University resources, and a student success advisor offering support from application to graduation, who will guide you to successfully complete your degree.

Every student teacher will satisfy the PDE requirement of a student teaching experience, including at least 30 instructional days in a PA school, during the final term of the program (15-week full time school hours).

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will have earned a Master's in Secondary Education and will be eligible for certification as a 7-12 grade level educator in the state of Pennsylvania.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 541	Culturally Responsive Schools, Teachers, and Classrooms	3
SPED 533	Special Education Inclusive Practices	3
EDUC 567	Methods of Teaching English Language Learners in the Content Areas	3
SPED 535	Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports	3
EDUC 501	Instructional Methods for Secondary Teachers	3
EDUC 516	Reading and Writing in the Content Areas	3
EDUC 529	Assessment Strategies & Data Driven Instruction	3
SPED 534	Differentiated instructional Practices	3
EDUC 535	Technological Applications	3
EDUC 525	Human Behavior and Classroom Management	3
EDUC 533	Evolving School Landscapes: Challenges and Reforms	3
EDUC 624	Student Teaching Seminar	3
EDUC 625	Student Teaching Practicum	6
Total Hours		42

Flexible, online format. 42 credit hours. 2 year completion time.

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Successful completion of the secondary certification assessment provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education is required for certification. Please be aware that it is the student's responsibility to regularly review the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) website for the most up-to-date testing requirements specific to your certification area, as PDE does make periodic changes to the requirements. For detailed information, please refer to the PDE Testing Requirement Link: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education/programs-and-services/educators/certification/help/quick-reference-for-applicants.html>

For:

Students eligible for the M.Ed. in PreK-12 Dance Education Certification include Point Park dance alumni and any student who has earned a B.F.A. or B.A. in dance from other institutions.

A baccalaureate degree in dance is strongly preferred. However, applicants with a baccalaureate degree in another discipline may be considered for admission if they can demonstrate extensive professional investment in the field, such as professional performance or dance pedagogy experience.

What you learn:

Point Park University's innovative School of Education and world-renowned Conservatory of Performing Arts are proud to be the first in Pennsylvania to offer a Master of Education in PreK-12 Dance Education Certification program, an opportunity for dance professionals to broaden their skillset in teaching the art of dance. With this in-depth, relevant and content-specific certification, dancers who envision a career outside of performance will be well-prepared and competitive in the workforce.

This program offers a distinctive blend of dance pedagogy and educator core competencies, taught by experienced professors who are skilled at supporting students' needs, career-readiness and quest for artistic excellence. Students will strengthen their understanding of child development, diverse learning styles, assessment, communication and differentiated learning practices

How you learn:

Point Park's online programs are offered in a cohort format with courses being 8 weeks long in a predetermined course sequence and are asynchronous for your convenience. Observation and field experience requirements are built into many of the courses, so students should expect to spend time in classrooms for this initial certification

Online students have access to the same great benefits as those on campus, including Point Park faculty with real-world experience, small online class sizes for individualized attention, a full spectrum of University resources, and a student success advisor offering support from application to graduation, who will guide you to successfully complete your degree.

Every student teacher will satisfy the PDE requirement of a student teaching experience, including at least 30 instructional days in a PA school, during the final term of the program (15-week full time school hours).

Career Outcomes:

Graduates of this program will be certified to teach dance in public and private schools in Pennsylvania. PA teaching certification carries reciprocity with 45 states through the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement. Students may also find employment in any dance organization that requires working with and teaching students.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 582	Dance Pedagogy	3
EDUC 583	Dance Aesthetics & Criticism	3
EDUC 584	Dance History	3
EDUC 585	Production and Technology	3
EDUC 586	Choreography and Composition	3
EDUC 587	Teaching Dance Methods PK-12	3
EDUC 541	Culturally Responsive Schools	3
SPED 533	Special Education & Inclusive Practices	3
SPED 534	Differentiated Instructional Practices	3
SPED 535	Positive Behavioral Interventions	3
EDUC 567	Methods of Teaching English Language Learners	3
EDUC 588	Student Teaching Seminar – Dance Education	3
EDUC 625	Student Teaching Practicum	6
Total Hours		42

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university and PDE policies.

For:

Students eligible for the M.A. in Dance Education include Point Park dance alumni and any student who has earned a B.F.A. or B.A. in dance from other institutions.

A baccalaureate degree in dance is strongly preferred. However, applicants with a baccalaureate degree in another discipline may be considered for admission if they can demonstrate extensive professional investment in the field, such as professional performance or dance pedagogy experience.

What you learn:

This program offers a unique blend of dance pedagogy and theoretical knowledge to provide dance education of the highest quality. Upon completion of this program, graduate students will be trained to support students' social-emotional needs, college and career readiness, and quest for artistic excellence.

Program Objectives:

Identify contemporary pedagogical and theoretical approaches to teaching dance. Illustrate the vital role that dance plays in the social and emotional development of children. Assess strategies for cultivating teamwork, cooperation, time management, and work habits in dance. Create dance lesson plans that include learning objectives, procedures, differentiation, assessment, and closure.

How you learn:

Point Park's online programs are offered in a flexible format at an affordable cost. Online courses are 8 weeks long and are always offered asynchronously for your convenience. Online students have access to the same great benefits as those on campus, including Point Park faculty with real-world experience, small online class sizes for individualized attention, a full spectrum of University resources, and a student success advisor offering support from application to graduation, who will guide you to successfully complete your degree.

Career Outcomes:

Graduates of this program will be equipped to provide their students with a 21st century dance education that prepares them for college and a career in dance or otherwise. Coursework will address the vital role that dance plays in the social and emotional development of children. The program focuses on training students on the dynamics of teamwork, cooperation, time management, and work habits in dance. Dance educators will have the tools to help their students become more productive, and socially and self-aware individuals in and outside of the classroom, for years to come.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 541	Culturally Responsive Schools, Teachers & Classrooms	3
SPED 533	Special Education & Inclusive Practices	3
EDUC 584	Dance History	3
SPED 534	Differentiated Instructional Practices	3
EDUC 567	Methods of Teaching English Language Learners in the Content Areas	3
EDUC 583	Dance Aesthetics & Criticism	3
EDUC 586	Choreography and Composition	3
EDUC 585	Production and Technology	3
EDUC 587	Teaching Dance Methods PK –12	3
EDUC 582	Dance Pedagogy	3
Total Hours		30

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university and PDE policies.

For:

Candidates for the Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Wellness Endorsement of Students PK-12 must have earned a Level I or Level II instructional, supervisory, educational specialist, or an administrative certificate. This endorsement program is intended for teachers, school administrators, counselors, and other school personnel who recognize the importance of supporting students who have experienced adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) or trauma.

What you learn:

The Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Wellness Endorsement of Students PK-12 program prepares professional educators who are compassionate and competent to build resiliency in students by facilitating social, emotional, and behavioral wellness in order to address non-academic barriers to learning. The four required courses, which include field experiences, describe the professional knowledge, skills, and competencies that students will master in the program and are grounded in theories of cognitive, social, emotional, and behavioral development and demonstrated research-based practices. Field experiences will provide students with a variety of practical experiences related to teaching and learning within diverse school settings with school mentors and school personnel (principals, deans of students, school psychologists, social workers, school counselor). This program prepares candidates to demonstrate competency in the five following domains:

- Social Emotional Wellness Learning and Youth Development
- Characteristics and Impact of Adverse Childhood Experience, Trauma, and Mental Illness on PK-12 Students
- Behavioral and Mental Health Literacy
- Prevention and Intervention to Support Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Wellness across PK-12 Educational Environments
- Collaboration with Families, Agencies, and the Community

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. Students will be engaged in an active and engaging interactive online environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in one year. Embedded in each course will be a number of required field experiences that are required by PDE for certification.

Career Outcomes:

Upon completion of this program, students will be eligible for the Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Wellness of Students PK-12 PDE Endorsement. Upon completion of this program, students will:

Describe and define what social emotional learning is and how it relates to resiliency, including the research linking SEL to positive and negative developmental outcomes. Discuss how a multi-tiered system/Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) approach is used to guide the selection and implementation of evidence based SEL programs and practices. Demonstrate an understanding of typical child, adolescent, and young adult development and the most common types of mental illness that PK-12 students may experience and the impact of ACEs and trauma. Identify and describe the roles of other relevant child-serving systems within communities that can be supportive to addressing matters associated with social, emotional, and behavioral wellness of PK-12 students. Plan and implement (when necessary) approaches to de-escalate non-crisis and crisis situations in the instance when the safety of students or others may be in jeopardy that reflect trauma-informed principles. Demonstrate an understanding of how to use academic and behavioral progress monitoring data (e.g., individual, classroom, school-wide) to support educational practice. Demonstrate authentic collaboration and culturally responsive approaches when communicating with family, school, and community partners regarding student social, emotional, or behavioral needs in simulated or actual contexts.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
SPED 535	Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports	3
EDUC 578	Social, Emotional Learning and Collaborative School Based Relationships	3
EDUC 577	Trauma Informed Practices	3
EDUC 589	Student Practicum Experience in Social Emotional Learning	3
Total Hours		12

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy. Students can apply for the endorsement after completing the course work. The application is submitted in the Teacher Information Management System (TIMS) that can be found on the PDE website like other certificate application.

For:

Candidates for the STEM Endorsement PK-12 Program must have earned a Level I or Level II instructional, supervisory, educational specialist, or an administrative certificate. This endorsement program is intended for teachers, school administrators, counselors, and other school personnel who recognize the importance of preparing students to thrive in an increasingly technological world.

What you learn:

Through our work on our National Science Foundation Grant Project, Transforming Integrative Makerspace Education (T.I.M.E.) for STEM, we have developed four graduate education courses to integrate maker education concepts and meet Pennsylvania STEM education competencies.

The STEM endorsement program at Point Park University prepares teachers who will be able to help students master academic standards and STEM skills. The program includes required PA STEM competencies and field experience/job-embedded activities. The courses within the STEM endorsement program include activities and experiences that assess whether candidates have acquired the required knowledge, skills, and competencies in inquiry-based learning environments in ways that assure validity and reliability. The courses are grounded in theories of cognitive, emotional and social development, research, and best practices in STEM education, and enable candidates to gain the knowledge and experience to work successfully with all students. All faculty that teaches within the STEM endorsement program demonstrate knowledge of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics academic disciplines.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. Students will be engaged in an active and engaging interactive online environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Following this schedule, you will complete the program in one year. Embedded in each course will be a number of required field experiences that are required by PDE for certification.

Career Outcomes:

This program is designed to assist teachers to enhance their instructional skills, while playing the critical role of change agents within the teaching profession. This STEM Endorsement option will provide the knowledge base and experiences to enable our graduate students to meet these challenges.

These four courses will be also offered as a Concentration option for our 30-credit, fully online Master of Education in Teaching and Leadership cohort program which is designed to accommodate professional educators who wish to earn a master's degree and those seeking leadership roles in the 21st century school.

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
DUC 551	Foundations of STEM Education and Integrated Curriculum Design	3
EDUC 552	Inquiry-Based STEM Pedagogy and Makerspace Education	3
EDUC 553	Teaching STEM in Elementary and Makerspace Environments	3
EDUC 554	Assessment and Technology Integration in STEM Education	3
Total Hours		12

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy. Students can apply for the endorsement after completing the course work. The application is submitted in the Teacher Information Management System (TIMS) that can be found on the PDE website.

For:

To meet the growing need for AI literacy in schools, there is an increasing demand for educators who are not only familiar with AI technologies but also capable of applying them to enhance teaching and learning. This new Endorsement aims to equip educators and students with the necessary knowledge and skills to navigate and contribute to an AI-driven world. This Endorsement program is designed to bolster educator competencies in integrating AI ethically, educationally, and innovatively across PK–12 settings. **Candidates must have earned a Level I or Level II instructional, supervisory, educational specialist, or an administrative certificate.**

What you learn:

The AI Endorsement is designed to ensure that educators are well-prepared to integrate AI meaningfully into their teaching, equipping students to navigate both the opportunities and challenges of an AI-driven world. The Point Park Endorsement aligns with Pennsylvania's "Artificial Intelligence Program Endorsement Competencies," emphasizing the integration of AI into education. Additionally, it supports national efforts to promote AI literacy and workforce readiness, as outlined in recent federal AI action plans.

This AI Endorsement is a non-instructional certification addition to existing teacher certifications (Level I or II) and designed to elevate educator capacity in integrating AI responsibly and effectively across K-12 settings. The Endorsement equips educators and students to navigate the evolving landscape of AI in education.

How you learn:

Online Format: This is an online cohort program. Students will be engaged in an active and engaging interactive online environment that includes assignments, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities done electronically. You will finish one 3-credit course every 8 weeks. Embedded in each course will be a number of required field experiences that are required by PDE for certification.

Career Outcomes:

The Point Park AI Endorsement Program represents a strategic investment in the future of education and workforce development by empowering educators with the tools and knowledge to teach AI concepts as we lay the foundation for a generation of students equipped to thrive in an increasingly AI-integrated society.

The four online graduate level courses for the AI Endorsement are built on the Pennsylvania Department of Education six broad AI Program Endorsement Competencies which are:

- Foundations of AI and Its Applications
- AI's Role in Human and Social Thriving
- Ethical and Responsible AI Use
- AI for Teaching and Assessment
- AI Literacy for Students
- AI Leadership and Innovation in Schools

Degree Requirements:

Course	Course Name	Hours
	AI Foundations and Applications	3
	AI Literacy, Teaching and Assessment	3
	AI Leadership and Innovation	3
	AI Ethics, Human and Social Issues	3
Total Hours		12

Note: Program and course requirements are subject to change to comply with university policy.

Students can apply for the endorsement after completing the course work. The application is submitted in the Teacher Information Management System (TIMS) that can be found on the PDE website like other certificate application.

For:

This certificate provides educators and related professionals with comprehensive preparation in the Wilson Reading System® (WRS) at Level I. It is designed for individuals who wish to develop expertise in structured literacy instruction, particularly for students with dyslexia or other language-based learning differences.

The four graduate-level courses, totaling 12 credits, emphasize the principles of structured literacy. At successful completion of all required components, candidates will earn a WRS Level I Certification.

Admission is limited to candidates who hold a teaching certification.

Certification Requirements:

The certificate consists of the following four courses:

Course	Course Name	Hours
EDUC 556	Science of Reading Overview Course	3
EDUC 557	WRS Introductory Course	3
EDU 558	WRS Intensive Instruction for the Non-Responsive Reader (Steps 1-6)	3
EDUC 559	WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum	3
Total Hours		12

Please Note: There is an additional fee to complete the WRS® Level I program.