

THE LEADS ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP

The Leadership in Educational Administration for the Development of Schools (LEADS) and CPED selection committee will award up to five LEADS fellowships for 2018-2019. The amount awarded will be based on the costs incurred by students while they conduct and disseminate results of their action research projects. Awards will range from \$1,000-\$2,000 per student-faculty research team. The maximum dollar amount and number of awards given annually is impacted by the quantity and quality of research proposals received. [Apply now](#).

The Department of Educational Administration and Foundations' doctoral program is dedicated to preparing educational leaders for the future. The acronym, LEADS is a succinct expression of the department's longstanding commitment to strengthen the K-12 public schools through sound graduate education. Students invest several years to complete their degree.

Most students in the doctoral, superintendent, and CSBO endorsement programs simultaneously work full-time and maintain family responsibilities. A great need exists to provide significant support to these students for one-two semesters of their program, allowing them to trade full-time work obligations for full-time graduate study. The LEADS fellowship program supports the completion of a school-based action research project conducted by a student who works individually with one or more faculty members. An award would cover a range of costs associated with developing a research idea, systematically investigating it, writing it up and sharing it with audiences inside and outside of the school community in the form of a publication, conference presentation, or presentation to departmental faculty.

Eligibility requirements

- Must be enrolled in the EAF P-12 doctoral, superintendent or CSBO endorsement program
- Must be involved in school development at their current position
- Must demonstrate clear direction with the project
- Must have selected a faculty member to work with

Use of funds

Students may also spend the money up front to get a project started. Eligible expenses include but are not limited to:

- Release time from work
- Time for data entry or transcription
- Time for data collection
- Travel to a conference

- Summer costs

Application essay

The application essay requires students to describe:

- Their ideas for school development
- How the award will be utilized during their educational experience
- How and with which external audiences will they share the project
- The project's anticipated beginning, middle and an end.

If the project will be an exploratory study, the essay should answer:

- What is the school-based problem?
- What is the student's own ownership in the process?
- What is the product of the research?
- What processes is the student using?

The [application](#) should include a cover page with the names and contact information for student-faculty team and:

Part 1: Narrative (up to 1200 words maximum)

- Description of proposed research and school-based problem
- Purpose and scope of the study
- Methods to carry out the study
- Proposed final product

Part 2: Appendices

- Timeline for accomplishing project
- Proposed budget
- Short bibliography of relevant research
- If IRB approval needed, commitment to complete training and IRB submission prior to the semester when the project begins

Application procedure

1. The P-12 doctoral student and the faculty mentor send an application to the LEADS/CPED selection committee outlining the school-based research project they

would like to conduct. The client-university agreement form with appropriate signatures must be attached.

2. If approved, the team obtains [IRB approval](#) (if applicable) to ensure that the project can be initiated.
3. The school-based research project is presented to EAF faculty on campus at a LEADS/CPED Symposium. Symposiums typically occur twice during the fall and spring semesters and once during summer sessions. The symposium is intended to strengthen and expand the project for the fellows.
4. The team works with the department's staff to receive payments and pay accrued costs as outlined in the budget.

Timeline: Applicants apply to the program the semester prior to starting their projects. Applications will be considered July 1 through March 1 during the academic year. The LEADS/CPED selection committee selects recipients on October 1 (for the spring semester), March 1 (for the summer semester), and May 1 (for the fall semester)