



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

## Ph.D. Degree in Community College Leadership

Location: Allen Hall, Room 248

For inquiries, contact Dr. Stephanie King ([sking@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:sking@colled.msstate.edu))

This innovative, interdisciplinary degree program is designed to meet the leadership training needs of community college professionals. Instructional delivery includes intensive weekend and internet courses created to examine the role of the rural community college in economic and community development and to prepare educational leaders capable of linking community colleges with rural development. This program is not completely online and requires students to attend classes in Starkville on Friday nights and Saturdays several times each semester.

### Admission Criteria

Prospective students should complete the online application on Mississippi State University's website. Applications are due March 1 for summer or fall admission and October 1 for spring admission. The following are required.

- At least three years of work experience in a community college
- Completion of a Master's degree from an accredited institution
- Transcripts of college work; minimum GPA of 3.40 on master's or specialist's degree work
- Letters of recommendation
- Statement of purpose
- Acceptable scores for each of the sections (verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing) of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). The GRE score must be current (no more than 5 years old). All applicants must take the GRE; there are no exceptions. There are no minimum scores, and the scores are considered as part of the overall application.
- Applicants who demonstrate potential for achieving excellence as a doctoral student will be invited to campus to participate in an interview conducted by the Educational Leadership faculty, as well as to provide a writing sample.

**Course Requirements: A minimum of 76 credit hours above the master's degree are required for the Ph.D. in Community College Leadership.**

### Required Courses: Community College Leadership Core (Minimum of 24 Credit Hours)

CCL 8113 – History and Philosophy of the Community College (3 credit hours)

CCL 8123 – Community College Finance and Budgeting (3 credit hours)

CCL 8233 – Community College Legal Issues (3 credit hours)

CCL 8283 – Leadership in Community College Administration (3 credit hours)

EDA 8323 – Educational Facilities Design (3 credit hours)

CCL 8333 – Community College Administration (3 credit hours)

CCL 8353 – Applications of Organizational Theory and Behavior in Community College Leadership (3 credit hours)

CCL 8383 – Ethical Decision Making in Community College Administration (3 credit hours)

### **Required Courses: Interdisciplinary Courses (Minimum of 18 Credit Hours)**

AEC 8713 – Rural Community and Economic Development (3 credit hours)  
AEC 6313 – Introduction to Regional Economics (3 credit hours)  
AEC 6333 – Applied Regional Economics (3 credit hours)  
PPA 9613 – Rural Government Administration I (3 credit hours)  
PPA 9623 – Rural Government Administration II (3 credit hours)  
PPA 8733 – Public Program Evaluation (3 credit hours)

### **Required Courses: Applied Research (Minimum of 14 Credit Hours)**

EDF 9373 – Educational Research Design (Prerequisite: EDF 8363 or equivalent) (3 credit hours)  
EDF 9453 – Introduction to Qualitative Research in Education (3 credit hours)  
EPY 6214 – Educational and Psychological Statistics (4 credit hours)  
EPY 8214 – Advanced Educational and Psychological Statistics (Prerequisite: EPY 6214) (4 credit hours)

In addition to successfully completing at least four applied research courses, students are expected to demonstrate competency in research skills in one of two ways: (a) submit a research paper to a peer reviewed journal, or (b) present a research paper at an annual meeting of a regional or national association conference/meeting.

### **Required Dissertation Research (Minimum of 20 Credit Hours)**

CCL 9000 – Dissertation Research (20 credit hours)

### **Notes**

Each student is responsible for knowing university, college, and department requirements as stated in the current Graduate School Bulletin and in the college and department printed and electronic materials.