

# Interdepartmental Doctoral Program in Education (EdD, PhD)

## Chairman:

Carol J. Strong, Dean of Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services

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**Faculty:** Faculty are listed with participating departments.

**Degrees offered:** Doctorate of Education (EdD) and Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD)

**Graduate specializations:** PhD or EdD—Management Information Systems, Curriculum and Instruction, and Research and Evaluation

## Admission Requirements

For admission information, contact: Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Utah State University, 0900 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-0900; telephone (435) 797-1189; FAX (435) 797-1192; [gradsch@cc.usu.edu](mailto:gradsch@cc.usu.edu).

To be evaluated against established criteria, students must submit to the School of Graduate Studies at Utah State University an

**Application for Admission** along with the following:

1. Two official transcripts of both undergraduate and graduate credits from all colleges or universities attended. An average grade of *B* (3.0) or better is required during the last two years of undergraduate work and for all graduate work.
2. Three letters of recommendation (required). At least two of these letters should come from individuals who can evaluate the student's academic abilities. All letters should address the student's potential for successful graduate study.
3. Documentation of a master's degree or equivalent coursework related to an area of specialization, or a statement of why admission is sought without a master's degree.
4. An official report of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), including both the Verbal and the Quantitative subtests.
5. Evidence of writing competency as determined by the department of specialization.
6. A statement of specific reasons for wanting to enroll in the doctoral program in education, including the area of specialization student desires to pursue.

Applicants to the Curriculum and Instruction specialization of the PhD and EdD degrees must have appropriate teaching experience.

## General Information

Students may select from one of three specializations within the Interdepartmental Doctoral Program: Management Information Systems (MIS), Curriculum and Instruction (C & I), and Research and Evaluation (R & E).

Both the **Doctorate of Education (EdD)** and the **Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD)** degrees are offered through the Interdepartmental Doctoral Program (IDP) in the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services (CEHS). The IDP is an interdepartmental faculty effort.

The EdD degree program is intended for students who wish to be better prepared to (1) understand and deal effectively with curricular

and instructional problems as administrators, supervisors, and curriculum specialists in public or private educational institutions and settings; and (2) teach in community colleges, four-year colleges, and universities. The PhD degree program is intended for students who wish to be better prepared to (1) fulfill roles in teaching and research in colleges, universities, and education-related fields; and (2) conduct and direct research and development activities in public and private educational settings or in the corporate sector.

## Specializations

### Management Information Systems

The MIS specialization offers PhD and EdD degrees to graduate students interested in higher education, public education, or research-related careers. Specialization emphases can be pursued in Management Information Systems, Marketing Education, Business Education, and Business Communications. Other subject-matter emphases are also available. MIS students acquire expertise in management of information systems, database design and implementation, e-commerce systems, and office productivity.

### Curriculum and Instruction

The C & I specialization prepares graduates for leadership, teaching, and research positions in curriculum and instruction. The PhD degree prepares graduates for academic careers in institutions that demand research expertise and an understanding of the theoretical foundations of curriculum and instruction. The EdD degree prepares graduates to serve as curriculum and instruction leaders in public or private educational institutions and to teach in education and education-related programs in colleges and universities. Areas of emphasis include early childhood; engineering and technology education; instructional leadership; reading/writing; schooling, culture, and society; and teaching and learning in higher education.

### Research and Evaluation

The R & E specialization prepares graduates with the research and evaluation knowledge and skills necessary for developing and validating new programs, comparing the strengths and weaknesses of alternative programs, and revising, updating, and possibly redirecting established programs. The PhD program typically focuses on research and evaluation methodologies that will prepare candidates for university or college teaching or research assignments that emphasize program evaluation. The EdD program is designed primarily for students who are practicing educators, and typically focuses on research and evaluation methodologies needed in educational settings.

## Planned Program

To complete a doctorate degree, a minimum of 60 total credits are required for students with a master's degree, and a minimum of 90 total credits are required for students without a master's degree. A student must:

1. Complete a Unifying Program of Studies Core (6 semester credits) and a Research and Statistics Core (12 semester credits), required of all doctoral students.
2. Complete a planned program of supporting electives, as designated by the specialization or by a department and approved by the student's supervisory committee.
3. Pass a written comprehensive examination. This exam must be satisfactorily completed before the student advances to candidacy. Advancement to candidacy also requires an approved dissertation proposal.
4. Present at a professional conference.

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5. Submit for publication an approved manuscript.
6. Complete and satisfactorily defend a doctoral research study directed and judged by a supervisory committee of faculty.
7. Complete all final requirements, as specified by an area of specialization, the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, and the School of Graduate Studies.

## Resident Coursework

The **Doctorate of Philosophy degree (PhD)** requires three semesters of full-time registration in residency with a minimum of two semesters of consecutive residency. Completion of 33 credits in residence on the Logan campus is required.

The **Doctorate of Education degree (EdD)** requires at least three semesters in full-time residency, but they need not be consecutive. At least two semesters must be spent on campus prior to registering for dissertation credit. Completion of 39 credits must be completed in residence.

It is strongly recommended that the applicant enroll on campus the first semester after admission, so that appropriate program planning can be completed.

## Doctoral Residency

The PhD requires three full-time academic semesters of residency, two of which must be consecutive. It is the responsibility of the student's doctoral committee to provide guidance, supervision, and review of the doctoral residency requirement. The purpose of residency is to provide the doctoral student with significant time for sustained contact with faculty members and intense attention to coursework, projects, research, and participation in academic life. Residency is a time for socialization into the shared community of professional life. It should include opportunities for the student to engage in activities outside of coursework that serve to transition the student to the new role of future colleague.

Each student's residency experience should be considered on an individual basis and should include many varied activities. Quality of participation is important, but so is variety. Experiences that meet the goals of the residency requirement may include such opportunities as:

1. Collaborative research or grants with faculty or peers
2. Working with faculty on scholarly publications
3. Participation in non course-related scholarly groups (e.g., book or writing groups)
4. College teaching internships or assistantships
5. Research assistantships
6. Attendance at local, regional, or national professional meetings
7. Involvement in graduate student organizations (e.g., Graduate Student Senate)
8. Committee and/or service work within the department, college, or university
9. Assisting faculty with course development and teaching

10. Advanced coursework beyond the minimum
11. Attendance at departmental colloquia
12. Considerable out-of-class interaction with faculty and/or students, especially on substantive issues
13. Organizing program events, such as brown bags, consortia, orientation programs, etc.

It is difficult to accomplish these outcomes while physically distant from the campus. Thus, doctoral programs nationwide include "residency" requirements to assure that doctoral students, upon graduation, will be prepared for full professional participation in academic life.

## Research

Each student must complete a significant research study; present at a professional conference; and prepare an article for publication in an appropriate journal, based on the completed research and/or program of study.

## Financial Assistance

Students should contact department heads for all inquiries regarding assistantships and tuition waivers. Applications for University assistantships, fellowships, and all financial aid are processed through department offices. For a listing of fellowships and scholarships, see the *Graduate Financial Assistance* section of this catalog (pages 100-101).

## Career Opportunities

The doctoral specialization prepares educational leaders for positions as college and university researchers and teachers in education and education-related fields. Recipients of the doctorate degree are also prepared to conduct and direct research and development activities in public or private educational agencies or in the corporate sector; teach in community colleges, four-year colleges, and universities; serve as supervisors and curriculum specialists in public or private educational institutions and settings; and serve in a variety of other careers.

## Administrative/Supervisory Certificate Program

A doctorate in education is separate from the Administrative/Supervisory Certificate (A/SC) Program; however, a student may obtain the A/SC while pursuing the doctorate degree. Completion of the A/SC program qualifies a person for the certificate required of administrators and/or supervisors at any level in the public school systems of Utah. Students desiring an Administrative/Supervisory Certificate will need to take courses in addition to those required for the PhD and EdD degree.

## Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services Courses

Education courses are listed under the EDUC prefix, [click here](#)