
October 21, 2025

Provost Program Proposal Review Committee
University of Louisville

Re: Final Program Proposal – Graduate Certificate in Educational Administration Leadership

Dear PPPRC Committee:

This letter is to signify my strong support for a new online graduate certificate in Educational Administration Leadership (EAL). The program design was led by Dr. Deborah Powers, Clinical Associate Professor and approved by the faculty of the Department of Leadership, Evaluation and Development (LEAD).

This online graduate certificate in Educational Administration Leadership (EAL) is designed to prepare school leaders to engage staff, improve the instructional capacity of schools, and deal effectively with the educational challenges of the 21st century. The goal of the graduate certificate is to provide field experience, clinical practice, and conceptual and theoretical knowledge necessary for leaders and administrators in education to address the complex challenges facing education today. The program's learning objectives highlight the commitment to quality, continuous improvement, and alignment with Kentucky's Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) and Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards.

The 18-credit hour (6 course) program caters to aspiring and current professional educators who desire a pathway to pursue Level I Principalship certification in Kentucky, an advanced leadership credential necessary for those pursuing administrative positions in the Commonwealth. Upon completion of the graduate certificate, candidates may advance toward the Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Administration, qualifying for Level II principalship certification and certification as a Supervisor of Instruction. The credit hours earned through the graduate certificate can be transferred into the master's program at the University of Louisville to facilitate seamless continuation of academic and professional development.

A vital step for advanced teacher preparation students to grow their career as P-12 school leaders and administrators, I strongly support this program. The unique stackable curriculum is designed to meet workforce needs and increase capacity for career advancement for Kentucky educators. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Tabitha Grier-Reed
Dean of College of Education and Human Development

CC: Deborah Powers, Clinical Associate Professor, LEAD
Jason Immekus, Department Chair, LEAD
Sneha Thapa, Accreditation Manager