



"THE MODEL IS A STRENGTH. I LOVED HOW THIS WAS A BLENDED PROGRAM INCORPORATING BOTH IN-PERSON, SYNCHRONOUS AND ASYNCHRONOUS EXPERIENCES."

- STUDENT, 2023 COHORT

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

MCLA prepares candidates to serve as highly effective leaders of educational institutions and active citizens in their communities. Students learn in a variety of cultural venues, advance their professional skills, are challenged to consider how equity, justice, and civil rights contribute to their work as anti-racist school leaders, and make lasting connections with faculty and educators around the region.

ELIGIBILITY AND LICENSURE

- A current initial or higher educator license
- Three years of experience working under this license
- A master's degree
- Submission of all required application materials

Upon successful completion of the Leadership Academy, graduates are endorsed for building-level licensure. An optional district-level licensure is available.

In Massachusetts:
Principal/Assistant Principal PreK-8 or 5-12
Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent

In New York:
Principal/Assistant Principal (SBL)
Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent (SDL)

MCLA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY STUDENTS EXPERIENCE:

- Place-based curriculum
- Music
- Art integration
- Simulations
- EdCamp
- Project-based learning
- Self-assessment
- Design Thinking
- Writing for publication
- Equity audits
- Data-driven planning
- Lectures by prominent thinkers
- Fieldwork

MCLA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

- Designed for educators who seek to advance professionally while working
- 12 months start-to-finish for Massachusetts principal/assistant principal; New York SBL
- 16 months for Massachusetts superintendent/assistant Superintendent; New York SDL (NY includes one additional course)
- A two-week summer residency, two weekend residencies (fall and spring), and a final residency hosted in the beautiful Berkshires.
- Online courses
- Internships supported by college supervisors who travel to educators' home districts
- Affordable, public college tuition/fee rates (An optional 9-credit C.A.G.S. sequence is available)

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“I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE MCLA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY. IT WAS AN EYE-OPENING AND LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE. I AM PREPARED TO GO INTO THE WORLD OF ADMINISTRATION THANKS TO MCLA.”

- Student, 2020 Cohort

Eligibility

- A current initial or higher educator license
- Three years of experience working under this license
- A master’s degree
- Submission of all required application materials

Licensure

Upon successful completion of the Leadership Academy, graduates are endorsed for administrator licensure.

In Massachusetts:

- principal/assistant principal preK-8 or 5-12
- Superintendent/assistant superintendent

In New York:

- Principal/assistant principal (SBL)
- Superintendent/assistant superintendent (SDL)*

*Candidates earn SDL by successfully completing one additional course and internship.

Our mission is to prepare school and district leaders who will ensure the highest quality and most equitable, just, and effective learning environments for students.

The Leadership Academy experience includes current best practices in instructional methodologies from nationally recognized educational theorists and successful school and district practitioners serving school and district leadership roles.

Courses include a blend of social, political, and academic theories and practices in examining current trends in public education.

C.A.G.S.

MCLA’s Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study (C.A.G.S.) in Educational Leadership is a post-master’s level certificate for professionals interested in a career as principal, superintendent, or other leadership roles in education. The nine hours of C.A.G.S. credit can also be transferred into Texas A&M’s doctoral program in educational leadership.

Cohort Model

MCLA Leadership Academy is a cohort model that blends academic content with practical skill and knowledge development; supports the advancement of working professionals; and is a low-residency model (summer and weekend) with independent and online work assigned between sessions.

Students earn 31 credits through pre-practicum experiences, seven courses, an administrative project, an administrative practicum, and a culminating Leadership Academy Conference.

Leadership Academy runs from July to July.