Clemson University’s online Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) in Educational Leadership is for educators with at least two years of teaching experience who want to learn how to serve students and communities collaboratively and to acquire the necessary skills to solve the complex problems facing schools today. The building-level Ed.S. combines the educational excellence that Clemson is known for with the flexibility that many educators need. The program enables students who already have a master’s degree in education or a related field to earn an advanced degree and certification focused on building-level educational leadership. Graduates become principals, assistant principals, instructional coaches, and curriculum specialists, and serve in a wide variety of building-level and district-level leadership roles. The GRE is no longer required for admission. South Carolina teachers and leaders receive a 10% reduction in tuition.

Program Format

The online Ed.S. offers convenience and flexibility with the same high-quality learning experience associated with Clemson’s face-to-face programs. The two-year, 10- or 12-course program includes an emphasis on instructional leadership and building equitable schools. Students take two, eight-week courses a semester with field experiences embedded in each course. In the last half of the program, students apply what they are learning in the program to address a problem of practice in an educational setting they are familiar with. Students choose from three degree options, which consist of 30 or 36 credit hours.

The plan of study below leads to South Carolina building-level certification in administration and supervision. Refer to this website for courses leading to district-level certification: clemson.edu/education/academics/masters/educational-leadership.html.

Online Ed.S. in Building-Level Educational Leadership

Applying Today?

The program admits for a fall start term only. Visit clemson.edu/graduate/admissions to start your application.

Application Deadlines

January 15: Priority deadline (for early decision applicants)
May 1: Application deadline

What Students Say

“The coursework that I completed was purposeful and easily transferred to several initiatives within my school and community.”

Robert Sessions, Teacher
Hughes Academy, Greenville, South Carolina