ADULT AND HIGHER EDUCATION

The Learning Resources Network (LERN) and the University of South Dakota are pleased to offer a Master of Arts in Educational Administration and Leadership, with an emphasis in Adult and Higher Education. This degree is awarded by the University of South Dakota.

University of South Dakota
Graduate Admissions
414 E. Clark Street
Vermillion, SD 57069
Ph: 605-658-6200
gradadmissions@usd.edu | www.usd.edu/online-edl-lern

APPLICATION DEADLINES:
The School of Education accepts applications each semester.

ACCREDITATION
The University of South Dakota is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (www.ncahlc.org), and by the accrediting agency for education schools and colleges, NCATE - National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, which has recently been replaced by the Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation (CAEP).

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The Master of Arts in Educational Administration & Leadership, Adult and Higher Education specialization, is a distinctive master’s degree that combines the academic, theoretical and research findings of adult and continuing education with the practical application of the responsibilities and duties of adult and continuing education administrators.

This unique program has been designed at the request of adult and continuing education administrators interested in receiving graduate credit by combining the practical, professional education that LERN offers with essential academic education from the University of South Dakota, a highly respected higher education institution.

The combination of USD curriculum and LERN institutes and courses allows working professionals to gain extensive knowledge in the area of adult and higher education, as well as to obtain practical tools applicable and beneficial to their organization.
The master's degree in educational administration and leadership with an emphasis in adult and higher education consists of 33 graduate credit hours. The convenience and flexibility of this program allows participants to gain up to 15 credit hours of practical knowledge through the LERN professional development institutes and online courses. The curriculum and faculty for select LERN institutes and courses are approved for USD credit in advance. As a result, university credit from the LERN experiences transfers seamlessly toward the master's degree. The remaining courses are completed online through the University of South Dakota. LERN participants residing anywhere in the world have access to this unique program.

REQUIREMENTS: Total 33 credit hours
Minimum 18 USD credit hours, Maximum 15 LERN credit hours

REQUIRED USD COURSEWORK
AHED 701 Adult-Learning Theories 3
AHED 710 Social Justice/Cultural Issues in Adult Education 3
AHED 752 Organization and Administration in Higher Ed 3
AHED 775 Trends & Issues in Training and Development 3
EDER 761 Research Methods in Education 3

Choose at least one of the following for a minimum of 3 credit hours
AHED 553 Personal & Organizational Change Management 3
AHED 730 Junior/Community College 3
AHED 735 Instructional Strategies for Adult Education 3
AHED 740 Continuing Education 3
AHED 760 Organizational Development 3
AHED 765 Distance Learning 3
AHED 792 Topics in Adult & Higher Education 3

REQUIRED LERN COURSEWORK
AHED 790 Program Management Institute (Certified Program Planner) 4

Choose LERN Institute Seminars - Maximum 11 credit hours
AHED 790 LERN Online Institutes 3
AHED 790 LERN Face-to-Face Institutes 3
Electives LERN Online Courses 1-3

* LERN offers a variety of institutes and online courses. These programs are continually updated based on participants' needs and market trends; course number and prefix are subject to change. Please visit www.lern.org and click on “Events & Education” to view a comprehensive list of current program offerings.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate School and specific requirements of the educational administration program. Graduate School requirements can be accessed online at www.usd.edu/grad.

1. Minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.7 and/or Graduate GPA of 3.0 (based on 4.0 scale) from an institution with full regional accreditation for that degree.
2. Additional requirements exist for international applicants, visit www.usd.edu/graduate-school/international-admissions/international-admission-requirements.

Applicants must submit:
• Application
• $35 Application fee
• Statement of purpose
• Resume with teaching and/or administrative experience
• Three (3) professional letters of recommendation
• Official transcripts from all institutions attended

PROGRAM COST
The 2019-2020 graduate tuition rate for USD's online courses is $465.800/credit hour. The tuition rate is the same regardless of the state or country of residence.

The total estimated cost of the program is:
18 USD credit hours ........................................ $8,384.40
15 LERN credit hours .................................... $600.00
TOTAL $8,984.40

For information regarding costs for LERN courses and institutes, please visit the LERN website at www.lern.org and click on “Events & Education.” The cost of university credit for USD approved LERN institutes and courses is an amazing $40.00 per credit hour. This special tuition rate for LERN participants is an attractive feature of the USD/LERN partnership.