Doctor of Education Admission Criteria and Application Process

The Northwestern State University Doctor of Education degree program seeks to develop the knowledge and skills that will enable graduates to excel and innovate in their chosen field. To achieve this end, the program establishes a dynamic and collegial community of students, faculty and stakeholders who are passionate about learning, innovation, and effecting positive change. These admission criteria help ensure that students are able to maximize growth and realize their potential in their chosen field of work and study.

Applications are received annually each spring for the following fall cohort. The application window opens on the first day of classes for the spring semester (see NSU academic calendar) and closes March 15th.

The Doctor of Education Program admits students through a selective, competitive application and interview process. Admission requirements are in accordance with Northwestern State University’s Graduate School requirements found in the current Northwestern catalog, with the addition of the following application components and admission requirements*:

- GRE scores with a minimum of 280 combined verbal and quantitative, or other approved professional examination score, such as PRAXIS.
- Submit online Graduate School application using degree code 700A at: https://www.nsula.edu/academics/graduate-school/
- Official graduate transcripts from each university attended – submit transcripts via e-Script or email to Grad_School@nsula.edu
- The following documents should be emailed to Grad_School@nsula.edu:
  - Resume or curriculum vitae
  - Essay writing sample - Must be a research-based paper
  - Statement of purpose – Student’s reason for applying and preparation for the program; strengths and experiences that are relevant, and how the program can help the student realize expectations and goals.
  - Three letters of recommendation - Must be from people who have supervised applicant in academic, employment, or other similar setting.

Additional Admission Requirements and Policies

All requirements for admission to the Graduate School and master’s degree programs, plus:

- Earned master’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0
- GRE requirements are waived if applicant earned a master’s degree with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5
- There is no conditional or provisional admission to the Doctor of Education;
- Applicants must have all application components on file and meet all admission criteria prior acceptance to the doctoral program
- Any defined special requirements of the department for the degree to be pursued

*Meeting all application and admission requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the doctoral program.

Selected applicants who meet the admission requirements will be invited to interview with the Doctoral Admission Committee.