

Spalding University Ed. D.: Leadership Program Admission Policy

Individuals seeking admission to Spalding University's Ed. D.: Leadership Program may apply to the program year round, but the application deadline for admission to the cohort that launches in August each year is the preceding **May 15**. Applications received after that date will be considered for admission to the cohort that begins doctoral studies in August of the following calendar year. The Spalding University Ed. D.: Leadership Program Admission Committee meets twice annually—in early February and in late May—to evaluate applications. Spalding University notifies applicants of the Admission Committee's decision shortly thereafter.

Applicants to Spalding University's Ed. D.: Leadership Program must submit and complete the following for admission consideration:

- 1) A [Spalding University application](#), accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee in the amount of **\$30.00**, to be submitted online. If there is difficulty with the online application process, you can mail application materials to Dr. Linda LaPinta, Director, Ed. D.: Leadership Program, Spalding University, 901 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40203.
- 2) **An official transcript from every post-secondary institution the applicant has attended**, even if credit earned at one academic institution was transferred to another academic institution or if the applicant did not earn a degree at an institution in which the applicant was enrolled for even 1 credit hour. Official transcripts must be stamped with the word *official* and must be sent directly from the educational institutions the applicant attended to Spalding University. Official transcripts are not transcripts issued to the applicant, even if the transcripts are sealed and stamped *official*. If an applicant earned previous degrees at Spalding University, the applicant needs to list those degrees but does not have to pay to have those official transcripts sent to the same university. Applicants must have a master's or professional degree cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0.
- 3) **Three professional letters of recommendation** which can be submitted online or sent directly from the letter writers to Dr. Linda LaPinta at the address noted above or at llapinta@spalding.edu.
- 4) **The applicant's current resume or curriculum vitae.**
- 5) **An essay** in which the applicant details his or her experience with leadership as a concept and with leading as a practice and in which the applicant indicates what she or he would hope to gain personally and professionally by earning a doctorate in leadership.
- 6) **A personal interview** with Spalding University's Ed. D.: Leadership Program director and members of Spalding University's Ed. D.: Leadership Program Admission Committee.
- 7) **A post-interview, on-the-spot, written critique of a journal article.**

The objective of the members of Spalding University's Ed. D.: Leadership Program Admission Committee is to admit students to the program who exhibit the knowledge, maturity, and communication skills to succeed academically and professionally as doctoral- and executive-level leaders in a variety of fields. Committee members seek professionally experienced students who exhibit disciplinary depth and who also demonstrate the ability to grow as scholars and leaders by acquiring interdisciplinary breadth. In addition, committee members admit students who exhibit the critical thinking and analytical skills necessary to evaluate issues and ideas; to think systemically; and to conduct original, scholarly research. To that end, Ed. D.: Leadership Program Admission Committee members each evaluate every component of a prospective student's application according to a rubric numbered 1 to 5 with 1 constituting poor performance or comprehension and 5 representing excellent performance or comprehension. An applicant must earn an average of 4 out of 5 points on every component of his or her application to be considered for admission. If an applicant receives an evaluation of 1 on any component of the application from even one member of the Admission Committee, that applicant is no longer considered for admission to the program.