

College of Education and Professional Studies

COVER SHEET FOR CURRICULAR CHANGE REQUEST

DATE: 10/11/08
DEPARTMENT: Educational Administration
☒ Graduate Program
Fall 2009 Effective Date
ITEM TO CHANGE: Admission Requirements

Reason for Request:

In March of 2005, Arthur Levine published *Educating School Leaders* in which he outlined a nine-point template for evaluating the quality of a school leadership programs. In response to Levine's report, the Illinois Board of Higher Education formed a commission to consider and evaluate the findings of not only Levine's report, but a number of other national studies that looked at the quality of school leaders and student achievement as well as the quality of training provided to school leaders here in Illinois. In August of 2006, the Commission on School Leader Preparation in Illinois Colleges and Universities published its report to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. In this report, *School Leader Preparation: A Blueprint for Change*, the Commission made 25 recommendations focused on the preparation of school leaders.

The fifth point in Levine's template focused on admission standards. He recommended that the criteria for admissions be designed "to recruit students with the capacity and motivation to become successful school leaders" (p. 13). One of the three goals developed by the Commission on School Leader Preparation in Illinois Colleges and Universities was to "restructure admission criteria and recruit high quality principals" (p.8). Specifically, "Inadequate admission standards and students' self-selection often do not produce the committed, high quality leaders needed in our schools-especially in our hard-to-staff schools. School leader preparation programs need to reshape recruitment efforts to attract candidates with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that are characteristic of effective school leaders" (p. 8).

In response to these recommendations, the Department made the following changes to our admissions standards for both the master's program and specialist's program in educational administration. These new standards are now in place.

- GPA -- 3.0 (2.75 provisional)
- Require a departmental application consisting of:
 - ☒ A writing sample
 - ☒ An opportunity for the applicant to demonstrate experience and interest in the program
 - ☒ Evidence of support from his/her school (signature of school principal or superintendent)
- Require applicants to complete the Ventures Administrator Profiler, a research-based on-line screening tool for finding the best candidates to lead dynamic learning communities.

The department would now like to require all applicants to the Master of Science Program to

have two years of teaching experience or two years experience in another certificated area. The department faculty members feel that new educators lack the knowledge and some of the skills to effectively participate in the Educational Administration program.

NATURE OF CHANGE

From:

Admission Requirements: To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see " Admission to Degree and Certificate Programs"). In addition, applicants must:

- Have earned a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (2.75 for provisional admission) or GPA of 3.0 (2.75 for provisional admission) on last 60 hours.
- Submit a writing sample demonstrating experience and interest in leadership.
- Complete and submit the departmental admission application.
- Complete the Ventures Administrator Profiler on-line.

Applicants must demonstrate a focus of interest in school administration. This focus can be documented through the submission of one of the following documents:

- Master's Degree- A valid teaching certificate.
Specialist's Degree- A principal's certificate.
- Master's Degree- Documentation of admission to and continuing participation in a teacher certification program.
Specialist's Degree- Document of admission to and continuing participation in a principal certification program.
- Both degrees- Documentation of employment in an administrative position at the community college or university and a statement of career goals emphasizing educational administration.

Extenuating circumstances may be appealed to the Department Faculty for consideration. Based on application materials supplied, applicants will be screened for admission to the specified program.

TO:

Admission Requirements: To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see " Admission to Degree and Certificate Programs"). In addition, applicants must:

- Have earned a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (2.75 for provisional admission) or GPA of 3.0 (2.75 for provisional admission) on last 60 hours.
- Submit a writing sample demonstrating experience and interest in leadership.
- Complete and submit the departmental admission application.
- Complete the Ventures Administrator Profiler on-line.
- **Master's Degree: Two (2) years fulltime teaching experience or two (2) years experience in another certificated area. Fulltime is defined by the Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/24-11.**

Applicants must demonstrate a focus of interest in school administration. This focus can be documented through the submission of one of the following documents:

- Master's Degree- A valid teaching certificate
Specialist's Degree- A principal's certificate
- Master's Degree- Documentation of admission to and continuing participation in a teacher certification program.
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- Both degrees- Documentation of employment in an administrative position at the community college or university and a statement of career goals emphasizing educational administration.

Extenuating circumstances may be appealed to the Department Faculty for consideration. Based on application materials supplied, applicants will be screened for admission to the specified program.

DATES OF ACTION

	DEPT	COLLEGE
Date Approved:	8/21/08	12/08/08
Date Denied:		
Date Returned for Revision:		