

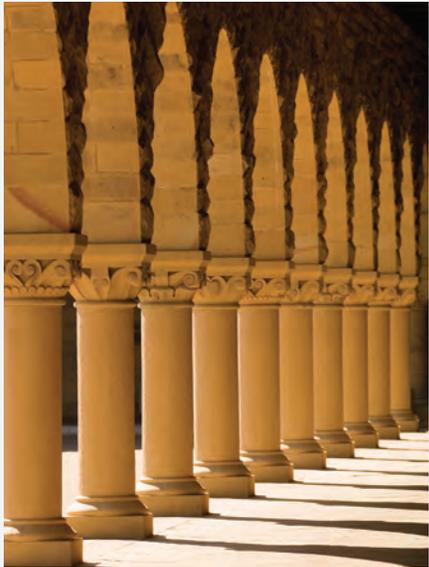
Stanford | Executive Program for Education Leaders

Superintendents and Central Office Leaders



Overview Schools must provide students with experiences both in and beyond the classroom that build the skills they need for future success. Yet education leaders face limited resources, workforce challenges, and conflicting constituent demands. As a result, creating the quality of schools that our rapidly changing and challenging world demands requires leaders to be dynamic and entrepreneurial change agents.

Stanford Graduate School of Education and Stanford Graduate School of Business join forces to offer Stanford’s Executive Program for Education Leaders (EPEL). The program supports the development of innovative, problem-solving management skills and leadership capacity for current superintendents and other central office leaders.



PROGRAM FEATURES

The year-long program includes a mix of on-campus and distance learning sessions incorporating case-study and research-based presentations, discussions, and exercises led by Stanford GSE and GSB faculty. The program also provides opportunities for cohort learning and group work within and across district teams. Online sessions throughout the year help participants apply what they have learned to their own district plans of action and provide opportunities for continued support and learning.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Stanford invites superintendents across all levels of experience and from all types of districts in California to apply. Applicants must identify an organizational challenge to work on during the year and designate cabinet members to attend EPEL as part of the district team. Examples of ideal team members are an assistant superintendent of human resources, an assistant superintendent of curriculum/teaching and/or a chief budget officer. The selected members should play crucial roles in addressing the organizational challenge identified on the application.

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Superintendents of districts with enrollment under 7,000 students should select 1-2 team members for a district team of 2-3 people total.
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Superintendents of districts with enrollment over 7,000 students should select 2-3 team members for a district team of 3-4 people total.
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WHY SHOULD MY DISTRICT TEAM ATTEND?

Effective district leadership requires continual development of individual and team leadership capacity. EPEL is designed to help superintendents and their teams build this capacity in the context of tackling a current, practical leadership challenge in their own districts. EPEL faculty are the same GSE and GSB faculty teaching in the MBA, MA, and PhD programs at Stanford, known for developing entrepreneurial leaders across for-profit and non-profit sectors. In EPEL, faculty and guest speakers use recent research and their own considerable experiences to help district leaders implement meaningful and effective reforms in their districts, both as managers and as entrepreneurial catalysts for change.

EPEL participants also build a strong network of relationships with a diverse group of peers who share the California context, strengthen their district team and support system, and expand their opportunities for extended cohort learning.

CURRICULUM

EPEL's curriculum addresses the expressed needs of districts in the current education policy context, building on the cutting-edge research of Stanford faculty. Program takeaways span salient leadership, management, and education issues. Topics covered may include:

General Management

Developing, Motivating, and Managing Human Capital

Defining and Implementing Strategies Effectively

Crisis Management

Design Thinking

Data-based Decision-Making

Educational Leadership

Leading and Supporting Workforce Learning

Creating and Improving Management-Labor Collaboration

Implementing and Assessing Reform

Effectively Harnessing Technological Innovations in Education

Turning Around Low-Performing Schools

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

EPEL is designed to build individual, team, and cohort leadership capacity.

Individual: Innovative strategic thinking, ability to drive change and motivate others

Team: Strengthen teamwork, scale excellence across the district

Cohort: External collaboration, support

PROGRAM STRUCTURE AND DATES

The program kicks off with a residential deep dive into the challenges of and skills needed for effective leadership. This portion combines a focus on general management and leadership with in-depth analysis of strategies to address specific challenges faced by schools and districts. The first four days are reserved for superintendents only so they may tackle leadership challenges specific to their position and learn from their peers.

For the remaining two days, selected district leaders, who themselves manage significant organizational demands, join their superintendents to extend the leadership and management work, build the central-office team, and focus on district goals and strategies. These two days include additional faculty sessions and opportunities for teams to apply their learning to their own organizational challenges and develop action plans.

Engagement continues off-campus via online sessions and one-on-one support as districts continue to develop and implement action plans over the year. Two additional weekends on-campus reunite the cohort and faculty for further sessions and collaborative work.

The 2015–2016 program dates on the Stanford campus are:

July 19–23, 2015: Superintendents

July 24–25, 2015: Superintendents + team members

October 10–11, 2015: Superintendents + team members

March 12–13, 2016: Superintendents + team members

Closing Day, July 2016 (date TBD): Superintendents + team members

ADMISSION

Admission to EPEL is selective – the admissions committee seeks to create a diverse participant class in order to foster deep cohort learning and network building opportunities. Admission decisions are made on a rolling basis, typically three to six weeks after application submission. Space is limited to 25 districts. Applications submitted at the beginning of the admissions cycle (December 2014 through February 2015) will receive priority. The final application deadline is April 1, 2015.

To apply, please visit seli.stanford.edu/apply/epel



PROGRAM FEE

Stanford Graduate School of Education and Stanford Graduate School of Business are generously subsidizing EPEL. As a result, the typical cost of \$19,000 per participant is reduced to \$2,000 per district team member.

This fee covers tuition and course materials during the program as well as accommodations and meals during the on-campus portions.

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EPEL is offered through the Stanford Educational Leadership Initiative, a joint initiative of Stanford Graduate School of Education and Stanford Graduate School of Business.

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For specific questions regarding EPEL, please contact

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