Master's Degree Programs in Education

The University of Scranton offers eight master’s degree programs in the field of education: early childhood education, elementary education, secondary education, special education, school administration (principal certification K-12), school counseling, reading, and curriculum and instruction. In addition, we offer programs designed to prepare elementary, secondary, and school counseling supervisors, as well as school superintendents.

Graduate study can prepare students for advancement or career change, and it can improve effectiveness in the classroom as well as enhance professional satisfaction. Faculty in the Education Department are committed to a model that seeks to develop a teacher as both a scholar and a decision maker, a model that gives educators the tools and the experience necessary for effective classroom decision making as well as a predisposition for lifelong learning. Obtaining an advanced degree often provides an additional educational certification as well as incremental gains on a school’s pay scale. Some individuals without previous teaching experience may wish to combine their master’s studies with the pursuit of a teaching certificate.

The University of Scranton’s programs in education are accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and by the National Council of Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Accreditation and interstate agreements help to ensure that certification earned through a program at The University of Scranton will be accepted by most U.S. states.

Graduate Education Programs

Early Childhood Education

The Master of Science program in early childhood education is designed to meet the rapidly growing interest in providing high-quality developmentally appropriate programs for young children. The program offers three options for students who have an interest in working professionally with young children and their families. Option I is designed for students who hold a valid certificate in early childhood education and choose to work toward a master’s degree in the field. Option II is designed for students who hold a valid certificate in early childhood education and choose to pursue a master’s degree in early childhood education. Option III is a teacher preparation program in early childhood education for students who do not have initial certification in either elementary or early childhood education.

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Elementary Education
Our master’s degree program in elementary education is designed to appeal to current teachers as well as people in other professions who are interested in becoming certified for elementary instruction (Pennsylvania, K-6). The Elementary Education program has two options. Option I is available to individuals who already hold a valid instructional certificate in another area. Option II is available to individuals who do not hold an instructional certificate.

English as a Second Language (ESL)
This program prepares students to teach English to children whose first language is not English, and to meet requirements for the ESL program specialist in Pennsylvania. Students can add this credential to an existing instructional certificate in elementary, middle or secondary areas. The master’s degree includes education courses for those who have not completed these requirements to teach in Pennsylvania.

Secondary Education
The secondary education program can also be pursued by those new to the field of education as well as teachers advancing their knowledge. Secondary Education concentrations leading to certification with a master’s degree are Biology, Chemistry, Citizenship, Communication, English, French, German, General Science, Latin, Mathematics, Physics and Spanish.

Special Education
Our special education program prepares students for Pennsylvania certification in Special Education: Cognitive, Behavior, Physical/Health Disabilities (CBP/HD). It is a broad certification encompassing 9 of the 13 disability areas identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) grades N-12.

School Administration (Principal Certification)
The administration program is designed to prepare principals for grades K-12. An applicant should hold a valid instructional or educational specialist certificate.

Reading
This program gives you a master’s degree in reading. In addition, the program along with requisite passing scores on the Praxis test leads to certification as a reading specialist.

Curriculum and Instruction
The program is open to individuals who already hold a valid instructional certificate. Individuals in the program may pursue either an M.A. or M.S. degree.

Supervision
You can become certified as a supervisor in reading, biology, physics, science, English, foreign languages, mathematics, chemistry, citizenship education, communication and school guidance. To obtain a certificate in supervision, you must first hold a valid teaching certificate in the appropriate area of concentration.

Superintendent’s Letter of Eligibility
This program is designed to develop superintendents and assistant superintendents competent to plan, monitor and evaluate activities touching many roles. Courses and experiences emphasize that education is a human process requiring group support and involvement if administration is to be successful.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
- On-line application: www.scranton.edu/gradapply
- Official academic transcripts from all colleges/universities attended indicating a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0.

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