The Graduate Certificate in School Leadership (GCSL) with a Catholic Education focus is a four-course experience designed to enhance your skills as a school leader.

You will develop your leadership capacity in areas such as:

- Leading a learning community in times of change
- Providing instructional leadership for increased student engagement
- Managing school operations and resources
- Moving policy to practice
- Understanding the social context of schooling

The Graduate Certificate fulfills the academic requirements for principal certification in Alberta.

**Rise to the challenges and opportunities of 21st century school leadership.**

This program enables Catholic school leaders to hone leadership practices centered on Alberta's Leadership Quality Standard (LQS) and the Leadership Quality Standard of Catholic Education in order to support and build up Catholic Education.

You will explore dimensions of leadership within Catholic Education and engage in authentic tasks and experiences including job-embedded learning components in which participants visit, observe, and collaborate with another school leader or leadership team in a Catholic school setting of their choice.

**THE PROGRAM**

The GCSL - Catholic Education cohort consists of 4 courses:

**EDU 520 Foundations of School Leadership**
**EDU 521 School Leadership: Theory into Practice**

Completion of these two courses fulfills the academic requirements for principal certification in Alberta. Students do not have to wait until they have completed the program to apply for certification.

**EDU 596 Leadership in Catholic Education**
**EDU 596 Leading School Operations**

*The Graduate Certificate can be laddered into some M.Ed. Programs.*

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

**June 30**

for Fall start

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

- Four-year baccalaureate degree (or equivalent) from a recognized academic institution and a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0.
- Two years of teaching experience.
- English Language Proficiency *(more information here)*

For more information:

gcslnfo@ualberta.ca
uab.ca/gcsl
A Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (GCES) or Graduate Certificate in School Leadership (GCSL) provides students with up to 12 credits in advanced standing in the MES program. Students who bring in one of the two approved Graduate Certificates will be admitted into the certificate cohort* with the following program plan:

**Summer I**

**EDU 510 Fundamentals of Educational Research**
Students learn how to understand and apply educational research to educational problems. Specific focus on conceptualizing methods of educational research to specific and individual educational sites and issues.

**EDU 514 Planning for Educational Change**
Students learn how educational research can enhance educational change toward school improvement, and focus on the creation of a site-based research proposal which utilizes appropriate research methods.

**Fall**

**EDU 515 Conducting Educational Research**
Students complete a supervised research assignment specific to their educational context. They will develop and apply knowledge and skills related to data collection, data analysis techniques and research report presentation.

**Winter**

**Elective I**
Professional Learning Electives

**Spring**

**Elective II**

**Summer**

**EDU 900 Program Synthesis**
A reflection and synthesis of learning from the Master of Education in Educational Studies in relation to the concepts of school/educational improvement that are the foundations of the program.

*This pathway will begin in Summer 2023. Completion of the GCES or GCSL does not guarantee acceptance into any Master's program.

**Students who are employed by school divisions that are part of the CAP program require additional approval which results in those students taking an elective in the Fall term and conducting research in the Winter term.

Other Laddering Options
The GCES and GCSL can ladder into the M.Ed. Elementary Education - Curriculum and Pedagogy. Contact elemgrad@ualberta.ca for more information.

Additionally, the GCSL can ladder into the M.Ed. in Studies in Educational Leadership. Contact epscoord@ualberta.ca for more information.

Faculty of Education, Professional Learning
Website: uab.ca/prolearn | Contact: pluadmin@ualberta.ca