The Division of Educational Leadership, Administration, and Policy (ELAP) offers graduate degree programs in educational administration at the master's and doctoral levels for future administrators, supervisors, principals, superintendents, and other leaders in public and nonpublic schools and faith-based settings, and for educators and trainers of adults in non-school settings. Within the general program are specialties in pre-K–12 education, and church and religious organizations.

New York State School Building Leader (SBL) Certification

Our master’s program in Administration and Supervision is approved and recognized by the New York State Education Department as an approved School Building Leader preparation program. Graduates of this two-year program will be prepared to take the examination for New York State School Building Leader (SBL) certification. This certification is appropriate for such positions as principal, supervisor, department chairperson, assistant principal, coordinator, and unit head and required for school-building-level leadership positions in all New York state public schools and, increasingly, in faith-based and nonpublic schools.

Prospective students must consult with their respective state education department to determine whether they meet qualifications for their state certification. Many states have reciprocity with New York state regarding leadership certification. Individuals seeking NYSED School Building Leader certification must meet all state requirements for the certification and should visit the NYSED website to review these. NYSED requires that candidates for School Building Leader certification take and pass the SBL certification exam (Parts 1 & 2), take and pass the Educating All Students exam, and complete the mandated Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) workshop.

New York State School District Leader (SDL) Certification

The Division of Educational Leadership Administration and Policy offers an advanced certificate program for individuals seeking New York State School District Leader (SDL) certification. SDL certification is required by the New York State Education Department for anyone seeking school-district-level positions, such as superintendent, assistant deputy superintendent, district supervisor, etc. in a New York state public school district.

Students must consult with their state education department as to whether or not these experiences, as well as their respective educational and professional backgrounds, are acceptable for their state certification. Candidates seeking SDL certification are responsible for determining New York State Education Department requirements for qualifying for NYS School District Leadership certification. These include a total of 60 graduate credits that must include a master’s degree, a NYSED-approved school-district-leader preparation program, taking and passing the two-part School District Leader certification exam, taking and passing the Educating All Students exam, and completing the NYSED mandated Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) workshop.