

Program Assessment Plan

Superintendent Graduate Certificate Program

Overview

The Superintendent Graduate Certificate (GC) program at UAS prepares candidates to become district level administrators in Alaska. Candidates in this one-year program take classes during the first and second summers of the program with the classes offered in shortened two-week blocks of time; the program continues in the fall and spring semesters. All classes are offered synchronously online except for the internship experience where candidates work with their superintendent as their mentor in the district where they work throughout Alaska. Graduates can apply to have a Superintendent Endorsement added to their Administrative Certificate issued by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. This program was designed by a team of superintendents and leaders from across the state to create a program that focuses on understanding the uniqueness of Alaskan school systems.

The Superintendent GC program is based on the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) standards at the district level. The NELP standards for district-level leadership preparation address the most critical knowledge and skill areas for beginning district-level educational leaders. The NELP standards were developed by the Council for Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the National Policy Board on Educational Administration (NPBEA), and they align to Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL).

Program Learning Outcomes, Standards, and Assessment Alignment

The Program Learning Outcomes (PLO's) are the NELP standards at the district level. The Portfolio is completed at the end of the program and consists of artifacts that provide evidence of the candidate's knowledge and ability to apply that knowledge to practice. The Portfolio is organized to demonstrate competence in the identified NELP standards and is assessed at the standard's component level. The portfolio is composed of an introduction, which profiles the candidate, and eight sections with one for each of the NELP standards at the district level.

PLO	NELP District-Level Standard Description	Assessment
1	Mission, Vision, and Improvement: Candidates who successfully complete a district-level educational leadership preparation program understand and demonstrate the capacity to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult by applying the knowledge, skills, and commitments necessary to collaboratively lead, design, and implement a district mission, vision, and process for continuous improvement that reflects a core	Portfolio: NELP district level 1.1 and 1.2

PLO	NELP District-Level Standard Description	Assessment
1	Mission, Vision, and Improvement (continued): set of values and priorities that include data use, technology, values, equity, diversity, digital citizenship, and community.	
2	Ethics and Professional Norms: Candidates who successfully complete a district-level educational leadership preparation program understand and demonstrate the capacity to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult by applying the knowledge, skills, and commitments necessary to understand and demonstrate the capacity to advocate for ethical decisions and cultivate professional norms and culture.	Portfolio: NELP district level 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3
3	Equity, Inclusiveness, and Cultural Responsiveness: Candidates who successfully complete a district-level educational leadership preparation program understand and demonstrate the capacity to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult by applying the knowledge, skills, and commitments necessary to develop and maintain a supportive, equitable, culturally responsive, and inclusive district culture.	Portfolio: NELP district level 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3
4	Learning and Instruction: Candidates who successfully complete a district-level educational leadership preparation program understand and demonstrate the capacity to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult by applying the knowledge, skills, and commitments necessary to evaluate, design, cultivate, and implement coherent systems of curriculum, instruction, data systems, supports, assessment, and instructional leadership.	Portfolio: NELP district level 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4
5	Community and External Leadership: Candidates who successfully complete a district-level educational leadership preparation program understand and demonstrate the capacity to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult by applying the knowledge, skills, and commitments necessary to understand and engage families, communities, and other constituents in the work of schools and the district and to advocate for district, student, and community needs.	Portfolio: NELP district level 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3
6	Operations and Management: Candidates who successfully complete a district-level educational leadership preparation program understand and demonstrate the capacity to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult	Portfolio: NELP district level 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3

PLO	NELP District-Level Standard Description	Assessment
6	Operations and Management (continued): by applying the knowledge, skills, and commitments necessary to develop, monitor, evaluate, and manage data-informed and equitable district systems for operations, resources, technology, and human capital management.	
7	Policy, Governance, and Advocacy: Candidates who successfully complete a district-level educational leadership preparation program understand and demonstrate the capacity to promote the present and future success and well-being of students and district personnel by applying the knowledge, skills, and commitments necessary to cultivate relationships, lead collaborative decision making and governance, and represent and advocate for district needs in broader policy conversations.	Portfolio: NELP district level 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, and 7.4
8	Internship: Candidates successfully complete an internship under the supervision of knowledgeable, expert practitioners that engages candidates in multiple and diverse district settings and provides candidates with coherent, authentic, and sustained opportunities to synthesize and apply the knowledge and skills identified in NELP Standards 1–7 in ways that approximate the full range of responsibilities required of district-level leaders and enable them to promote the current and future success and well-being of each student and adult in their district.	Portfolio: NELP district level 8.1 and 8.2