

Educational Leadership, Instructional Specialist, Ed.S.

The Educational Leadership, Instructional Specialist, program is designed for students who already have class "A" professional certification in educational administration.

Successful completion of the program may qualify the candidate for the Class "AA" Professional Instructional Support Personnel Certificate as an Educational Administrator.

Admission Requirements

(2) **Admission.** Advanced certification for an Instructional Leader shall be at the Class AA level and shall minimally ensure the following:

(a) All candidates must undergo a criminal history background check. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.02(5).

(b) All candidates must hold a Class A Professional Educator Certificate in Instructional Leadership or one of the other Class A leadership certificate designations [Instructional Leader, Principal, Superintendent, Superintendent-Principal, Educational Administrator, Supervisor (any subject and/or grade level), Administrator of Career and Technical Education].

(c) Candidates must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Hold a Class A Instructional Leadership certificate earned after completing a redesigned program at an Alabama university.

2. Be currently serving as a superintendent, assistant or associate superintendent, assistant to the superintendent, principal, assistant principal, supervisor (any subject and/or grade level), administrator of career and technical education, coordinator, or evaluator.

3. Document three years of employment in an instructional leadership position for which one of the certificates in Rule 290-3-3-.53.01(2)(b) is proper certification according to the current edition of the *Subject and Personnel Codes* of the Alabama State Department of Education.

4. Demonstrate each of the abilities in the Class A Instructional Leadership standards prior to admission to the Class AA Instructional Leadership program or prior to completion of the Class AA Instructional Leadership program.

(d) Applicants who completed a Class A program other than one approved by the State Board of Education on or after September 8, 2005, must submit a portfolio which includes:

1. Three letters of recommendation.

2. Most recent performance appraisals.

3. Evidence of ability to lead student achievement.

4. Evidence of leadership and management potential.

5. Reasons for pursuing the Class AA certificate in Instructional Leadership.

(e) Applicants who completed a Class A program other than one approved by the State Board of Education on or after September 8, 2005, must pass an interview conducted by a program admission committee that includes both P-12 instructional leaders and instructional leadership faculty. (Questions in the interview should reflect a higher level of knowledge and ability than those used as part of the admission process for the Class A Instructional Leader program.)

Requirements for Certification. Readiness to serve as a Class AA Instructional Leader shall include:

(a) An official transcript from a regionally accredited institution documenting a minimum of 33 semester hours of post-master's degree work at the sixth-year level or above.

(b) Satisfactory completion of a State-approved program with a minimum GPA of 3.25 on all courses in the Alabama State Board of Education approved Class AA Instructional Leadership program.

(c) Competence to serve as a Class AA Instructional Leader as partially demonstrated through completion of mentor training.

(d) Competence to serve as a Class AA Instructional Leader as partially demonstrated through completion of a problem analysis project.

(e) A passing score on a comprehensive assessment documenting mastery of the Class AA Instructional Leader program curriculum. The assessment may include but may not be limited to an oral examination.

(5) Testing for Class AA Certification for Instructional Leadership. Applicants for Class AA certification who are meeting requirements for a certificate which covers a grade span different from the grade span covered by the certificate used as the basis for admission to the Class AA Instructional Leadership program must meet the Praxis II requirements of the Alabama Prospective Teacher Testing Program (APTTP). Some individuals hold an Alabama certificate for principal 1-6 or 7-12 rather than P-12. A person holding one of those certificates and completing the Class AA Instructional Leadership P-12 program must meet the Praxis II requirements as a precondition for certification. Additional information is provided in Rule 290-3-3-.01(3).