

Application Timeline

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership

Sul Ross State University

Beginning in summer of 2027, the program will welcome two cohorts each year. Cohorts will begin in spring and in summer each year and will be capped at 15 students.

Application Timeline

Application Window Opens

The ApplyTexas application portal opens approximately 10 months prior to the semester in which the cohort will begin.

Application Deadlines

While applications will be accepted after this date if space remains available, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit complete applications a minimum of six weeks prior to the beginning of the term in which the cohort will begin,

Application Review Period

The Ed.D. Program Admissions Committee will conduct holistic review of all complete applications periodically through the application process. Some applicants may be invited for virtual interviews during this period.

Cohort Announcement

The completed slate containing the names of the cohort will be announced to those selected no later than one month prior to the beginning of the term in which the cohort begins. Individual applicants may be notified prior to the release of the completed slate as the cohort fills.

Enrollment Confirmation Period

Admitted students confirm their intent to enroll and complete necessary registration processes. The program director and faculty will be available for consultation during this period to answer questions and support the transition to doctoral study.

Program Orientation

One week prior to the start of coursework, registered students participate in a comprehensive orientation covering program expectations, improvement science foundations, technology requirements, and cohort community building.

Program Start: Summer and Fall Terms, beginning in Summer 2027

Key Dates at a Glance

Milestones	Spring Start	Summer Start
ApplyTexas portal open	February of previous year	August of previous year
Application Deadline	December 1 of previous year	May 1
Cohort Announcement	Mid-December	Early May
Enrollment Confirmation Period	Mid-December	Early May
Program Orientation	One week prior to classes	One week prior to classes
Program Start	Mid January	Early June

Admission Requirements Summary

To be eligible for admission, applicants must:

- Hold a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution (minimum 3.0 GPA)
- Possess Texas Principal or Principal as Instructional Leader Certificate
- Demonstrate minimum three years of leadership experience
- Be employed in a leadership role with authority to lead change initiatives and access to organizational data
- Submit complete application materials including letter of introduction, video presentation, letters of recommendation, and employer support verification

Full admission requirements and application materials are detailed in the Admissions Requirements & Process document.

What to Do Now

Submit an Expression of Interest

The Expression of Interest form allows you to receive notification of application deadlines, learn about information sessions and webinars, and connect with the program director for questions. Submitting an Expression of Interest creates no obligation.

Expression of Interest Form: [Submit Here](#)

Prepare Your Application Materials

You can begin preparing materials now:

- Letter of Introduction: Draft your 3–5 page statement addressing your professional background, Problem of Practice, motivation for doctoral study, and program alignment
- Video Presentation: Plan and record your 5–7 minute video introducing yourself, your problem of practice, and your goals
- Letters of Recommendation: Identify and contact two recommenders who can speak to your leadership ability and readiness for doctoral work
- Employer Support Letter: Request written verification from your supervisor confirming your leadership authority, data access, and organizational support
- Transcripts: Request official transcripts from all institutions where you completed graduate work
- Texas Principal Certificate: Ensure your certificate is current and have a copy ready to submit
- Professional Materials: Update your résumé or CV and gather any evidence of leadership impact you wish to include

Connect With the Program Director

Dr. John Decman is available to discuss the program with prospective students and answer questions about program alignment with your professional goals, your preliminary Problem of Practice, application materials and requirements, and the cohort model and program expectations.

Contact: Dr. John Decman

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Frequently Asked Questions

What if I miss the application deadline?

Applications submitted after the deadline will be considered on a space-available basis. However, late applications may have less time for enrollment preparation and may not receive priority consideration. It is possible that qualified applicants who submit after the deadline will have admission postponed until the next cohort.

Will there be information sessions before applications are due?

Yes. The program will host virtual information sessions each semester. Details will be communicated to those who submit Expression of Interest forms.

How competitive is admission?

Cohort size is limited to 15 students. Admission is competitive and holistic, considering professional experience, academic preparation, mission alignment, and potential contribution to the cohort learning community.

Questions About Timeline or Program Status?

Dr. John Decman, Program Director

