



Catholic School Leadership Development Initiative

Catholic Extension and Loyola Marymount University are engaged in a partnership to offer a graduate level online Certificate in Catholic School Administration program to novice and prospective leaders in Catholic schools in mission dioceses throughout the United States. This program is designed for those that currently hold leadership positions in Catholic elementary and secondary schools (such as vice-principals, school fundraisers, department chairs, and new principals) and those that have been identified for a leadership role in the future. Although leadership development is often identified as a strategic concern for Catholic Schools in Mission Dioceses, these schools often lack opportunities for leadership development due to barriers of cost and distance.

This unique educational program, offered through LMU's *Catholic School Leadership Academy*, provides professional development that is specific to the Catholic school administration context. The one-year (4 course/10 graduate level units) program is designed to address three major themes in Catholic school administration: mission effectiveness, operational management, and instructional leadership. Some of the topics covered are Catholic identity, spiritual leadership, mission integration, vision implementation, instructional leadership, best practices in governance, budget development, laws, ethics, fundraising, finance, and human resource administration. The next national cohort will begin in August 2020.

This program has already shown outstanding success and impact in its first five years. As of 2020, 96 students from 33 mission dioceses have participated, with nearly half of all students being selected for a promotion in their diocesan school system within the first two years after receiving their certification.

Applications will be considered for up a maximum of three students per diocese, and must be leaders in their school and nominated by their principal and/or superintendent. Nine units of this coursework will count toward a Master of Arts in Catholic School Administration at LMU.

Students will be asked to commit a minimum of 2 years of service to a Catholic School in their diocese after they successfully complete the certificate program. Additionally, at the conclusion of the program students will be asked to apply their new skills by implementing a specific project that will enhance their local Catholic school in a strategic area identified by the principal. Project plans must be submitted to Catholic Extension in writing during the course of the program.

The normal cost of this educational program is estimated at \$14,220 per student (estimate pending final 2020-21 tuition confirmation), but with contributions from both Catholic Extension and LMU, the cost has been reduced to an estimated cost of \$3,148 per student. This remaining cost can be shared between the participant and the Catholic School and or/diocese where he/she works.

Desired Outcomes:

- Building Leadership Capacity: Dioceses and individual Catholic schools can retain their most promising leaders and create a pipeline of talent for future leadership positions or increased responsibilities in their current position.
- Knowledge and Skills Applications: Catholic school professional educators can apply the administrative knowledge and skills attained from the program to their current and future work as leaders, therefore strengthening their local Catholic school.

Expected Contributions & Responsibilities of Each Party:

1. Loyola Marymount University:

Financial – The School of Education will provide a tuition grant of 40% to each student.

Programmatic - LMU will be responsible for final admissions decisions for candidates who are selected to move forward after initial applications to Catholic Extension. LMU will also coordinate all academic content and the logistics related to the certificate program.

2. Catholic Extension:

Financial - Catholic Extension will provide a tuition grant of 40% for each participating student. Funding will be provided directly to the diocese, who will then make final payment to LMU.

Communication - Catholic Extension will be responsible for communicating this initiative, and its terms and conditions, to the mission dioceses, and for collection of program applications to coordinate student selection with LMU.

3. School/Student:

Financial - Twenty percent of tuition and any remaining costs, or an estimated total of \$3,148, will be shared by the school, student, and/or diocese. This cost sharing must be individually negotiated between the school, student, and diocese. Regardless of the cost sharing arrangement, tuition bills for the remaining \$3,148 will be sent to the student for payment directly to LMU.

Programmatic – At the conclusion of the program, the student will be responsible for identifying a new project which will apply learned skills to enhance their local school.

Technology – Each student will be required to have a sufficient and stable high-speed broadband connection and computer with video and audio capabilities in order to participate in class sessions without noticeable interruption or delays.

4. Diocese:

Strategic – The diocesan Superintendent will be responsible for recruiting and nominating potential participants who are identified to be promising future leaders in their Catholic Schools.

Tactical - The diocese will be responsible for reporting results to Catholic Extension at the conclusion of the program.

Financial Details of Partnership

Contributors	Cost Per Student (estimated)	Cost for 3 Students
Catholic Extension		
40% tuition (estimated for 2020-21)	\$5,536	\$16,608
Total:	\$5,536	\$16,608
LMU		
40% tuition	\$5,536	\$16,608
Total:	\$5,536	\$16,608
School and Student		
20% tuition	\$2,768	\$8,304
Registration and Student Fees (estimated)	\$380	\$1,140
Total:	\$3,148	\$9,444
Total	\$14,220	\$42,660

Schedule of Courses

Summer 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Summer 2021	Total Units
EDLA 6420 (1 unit) with Invitation to Lead	EDLA 6430 (3 units) Mission-Focused Leadership in Catholic Education	EDLA 6431 (3 units) Organizational Leadership in Catholic Education	EDLA 6432 (3 units) Instructional Leadership in Catholic Education	10

Timeline

January 14, 2020	2020-21 applications open for mission dioceses
February 28, 2020	Deadline for applications from dioceses
March 2020	Decisions communicated to applicant dioceses
April 10, 2020	Admissions Deadline to LMU for students from approved dioceses
May 2020	LMU admissions decisions issued and enrollment in classes
June 15, 2020	Summer 2020 Registration Deadline
June 29, 2020	Summer 2020 Session Begins (Self-paced independent coursework begins)
July 31 – August 2	Invitation to Lead
August 24, 2020	Fall 2020 Semester begins
January 2021	Spring 2021 Semester Begins
May 2021	Summer 2021 Semester Begins
June 2021	Student project proposal submitted to LMU, Diocese, and Catholic Extension
August 2021	Program implementation begins in schools