MEd in Urban Higher Education

Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. Transcripts for all undergraduate and any graduate work must be submitted. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements.

- **Baccalaureate Field** No restrictions.
- **Grade Point Average** A minimum 2.75/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours of undergraduate study, and a 3.00/4.00 grade point average on all postbaccalaureate or graduate coursework combined.
- **Tests Required** No tests required.
- **English Proficiency** Additional information on the English proficiency test requirement for international students can be found on the UIC Admissions website. Minimum test scores for this program are:

Exam	Score	Reading	Listening	Speaking	Writing
TOEFL iBT (exams taken on or after 1/21/2026)	4.5	4	4	4.5	4.5
TOEFL iBT (exams taken prior to 1/21/2026)	80	19	17	20	21
IELTS Academic	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
PTE Academic	54	51	47	53	56
Duolingo English Test	120	115	115	115	115

- **Letters of Recommendation** Two letters of recommendation required.
- **Personal Statement** Required; the statement must address the applicant's program and professional goals.
- **Other Requirements** Admission is restricted to Fall and Spring term.
- **Deadlines** Application deadlines for this program are listed on the Graduate College website.

Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 36 beyond the baccalaureate. At least 18 hours, or one-half of the minimum number of semester hours of graduate work required for the degree, whichever is greater, must be earned as a degree candidate at UIC.
- **Coursework**

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses (24 hours)		
EDPS 515	Introduction to Urban Higher Education	
EDPS 518	Students, Diversity, Equity, and Access in Urban Higher Education	
EDPS 520	The City as Campus: City and University Relations	
EDPS 516	College Student Development Theory	
EDPS 530	Capstone Seminar	
EPSY 516	Institutional Research, Data, and Evaluation in Urban Higher Education	
Recommended Elective Courses (12 hours)		
EDPS 415	Current Controversies in Urban Higher Education	
SPED 461	Political and Socio-Cultural Perspectives on Special Education	
EDPS 519	Student Transitions to College	
EDPS 529	Internship in Urban Higher Ed	

- **Thesis, Project, or Coursework-Only Options** Coursework only. No other options are available.
  - 4 semester hours in the course EDPS 530 will serve as a culminating experience that will help students bring together their coursework, professional experience, and internship opportunities. As part of this final required seminar, students will develop and complete a project that aligns with their professional goals and that builds off of the themes of the program and coursework. This is not a thesis project, since the program is coursework only; however, this seminar will ask students to complete a concluding project. Students will present their chosen projects to the class and to a committee of faculty from the program, department, and college. This presentation will serve as a final examination for the seminar and the program overall. As part of this presentation, they will set their project within the framework of the program and their additional coursework. The presentation and the project will become part of a larger portfolio of their work collected from all of their prior courses. This portfolio will serve as a final assessment of their work in the program and the degree to which they have addressed the program learning objectives.
- **Comprehensive Examination** Not required, but the final project and presentation (as detailed above) will serve in place of a comprehensive examination.
- **Time Limits** All of the requirements must be completed within six consecutive calendar years after a student's initial registration in the Graduate College. Students pursuing more than one degree at the same time will be given an additional two years. Students who do not graduate by these deadlines will be dismissed from the Graduate College for failure to progress. Time spent on a leave of absence approved by the program and the Graduate College is not counted toward the degree time limit.

Interdepartmental Concentrations

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- Black Studies