What is the modality of the program and when do classes meet?

- The USF Masters of Education program is one program consolidated across all three campuses and is primarily synchronous and virtual.
- Admissions happens in cohorts three times a year: Fall, Spring, and Summer.
- Students typically enroll in two classes per semester meet synchronously online on Monday and Wednesday evenings.
- While we design the program to meet the needs of working professional through online instruction, students, Alumni, and district partners clearly indicated that they appreciate and value meaningful face to face interaction.
- Students are asked to attend 2 Saturday class sessions in the fall and spring semesters and 1 Saturday session in the summer—a total of 8-9 Saturdays stretched across 5 Semesters.
- During the Saturdays, students will also have opportunities to hear guest speakers, district partners, policy makers, as well as to network with alumni and students in other cohorts.
- The Saturday sessions will rotate across all three campuses.
- We know our students live busy lives, so students will receive a calendar of courses, course meeting times, Saturday meeting dates and locations, and expected graduation semester when they enroll in the program.

Can I just take the courses I need for the certificate?

Due to the sequencing of the courses and the specific FLDOE requirements in each course, the M.Ed. is designed for degree-seeking students. The FLDOE – approved modified program is a 30-hour program, the same as our M.Ed., and so we encourage students to enroll in the degree program. Please note that we are committed to a coherent and high-quality experience for students, so we do not encourage students to take classes without seeking a degree.

I already have a graduate degree – can any of these courses count towards my degree?

If your courses will be less than 10 years old at the time of your graduation and they were not used towards another degree, we can review the coursework to see if any are suitable substitutions. You must provide a copy of the syllabus for the course to be reviewed.

I’ve completed two years of teaching, but my evaluations will not be ready until the semester begins:

If the student meets all other admission requirements, they can be conditionally admitted to the program. The student must submit a teaching evaluation with effective or higher by the deadline or will be removed from the program.

I do not have the GPA for the program.

If the GPA is close enough, a student can be admitted with a condition to earn at least a 3.0 GPA in the first semester.
**Is the GRE required?**
No.

**When do I have to take the FELE?**
All students are encouraged to complete the FELE near the end of the semester in which they are enrolled in Practicum I or near the beginning of the semester in which they take Practicum II. Students must email a copy of their official score reports to their graduate advisor upon completion. All score reports must be received by (one week before the end of classes).

**Life happened – can I take a break from coursework?**
Yes, you may take up to two semesters off without enrollment. You should alert your graduate advisor prior to taking time off and before returning. Returning to coursework will depend on the schedule and course rotation. If you need more time or if the sequence of courses does not allow you to come back by the third semester, a Leave of Absence request must be completed.

**I’m in another program at USF and would like to transfer into the Ed Leadership degree:**
Students must complete a change of program form and meet all admission requirements for the program.

**Do I need to take an ESOL class?**
The ESOL requirement is waiver if you can provide documentation showing a C or better in a 3-credit hour TSL/FLE course on your college transcripts or documentation of 60 hours of ESOL PD through the school district. If not, the student must submit a signed statement along with their program of study stating that they will complete the 60 hours of ESOL through their district or enroll in the 3-credit hour ESOL class prior to graduation. *Having a professional teaching certificate is not enough proof of ESOL due to different ESOL requirements per instructional assignment.*

**What is the cost of the program?**
Current USF Florida Resident Tuition and Fees is $431.43 per credit hour, or approximately $12,942.90 for the 30-hour program. Please note that this excludes cost of books and any program specific fees and are subject to change.

**Why USF?**
- Convenience and Value: Primarily virtual instruction paired with meaningful face to face learning at a reasonable cost.
- Research and Relevance: Nationally recognized faculty that share a commitment to developing robust school-university partnerships, to teaching relevant and challenging content, and to conducting robust and relevant research that changes lives.
- Care and Relationships: We have strong alumni networks and networking opportunities. We care about your success and develop relationships with students that we hope last a lifetime.