



CARSON-NEWMAN

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Ed.D Completion Pathway Program (ABD or EdS to EdD)

The admissions requirements for the EdD Completion pathway are as follows, with information and explanations of each requirement:

- 1.) No more than 15 academic years may have elapsed between application for enrollment in the Ed.D. Completion Pathway Program since your last enrollment in a previous program.

OR

Completion of an EdS degree from a regionally accredited institution. No more than 10 academic years may have elapsed between application for enrollment in the Ed.D Completion Pathway Program since your date of degree conferral.

Please submit official transcripts from your previous enrollment in an Ed.D. program or an official transcript with your conferred Ed.S. degree.

- 2.) Verify good standing with the previous institution where you started your EdD and no dismissal for ethical or moral issues.

[Link to Disciplinary Form](#) (completed by institution from time in EdD)

- 3.) Proof of ABD status from a regionally approved program with official transcripts and link to the catalog.

Please submit official transcripts from your previous enrollment in an EdD program.

A link to your previous institution's graduate catalog should be included in your application's completion. A link to the catalog from the years attended is preferred, but a link to the current graduate catalog will suffice if it includes the EdD/PhD program in which you were enrolled. (Example: https://www.cn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/2021-2022_Rev.Graduate_Catalog.pdf)

- 4.) A professional portfolio of sample coursework submissions and three (3) years of professional experience evidence, and career development

Please include 2-3 items which capture evidence of your professional experience and achievements in the field of Education. Some of those items might include:

- Capstone projects and/or major projects in coursework
- Research papers, publications
- Evidence of three years of professional experience
- Evidence of professional development and learning

5.) Master's Degree graduate GPA of 3.3 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

- a. Please submit official transcripts from all graduate coursework, including the master's, Ed.S., and doctoral level.

6.) A virtual interview with graduate faculty

Once you submit transcripts and your portfolio, a faculty member will contact you to schedule a virtual interview.

7.) Three (3) letters of reference (professional or academic)

When completing your application, please submit names and contact information for 3 professional and/or academic recommendations. Recommendation forms will be sent directly to the contacts you provide.

8.) An EDLDA (professional disposition assessment) completed by the applicant's current immediate supervisor. The EDLDA (Education Leadership Disposition Assessment) is a valid and reliable instrument used to assess the professional dispositions of students in advanced programs and used by C-N to assess students three times in the doctoral program.

[Link to the form to be completed by your supervisor.](#)

9.) Evidence of receiving a minimum score of 85 (Internet) on the TOEFL IBT Examination if English is not the student's first language (score may be no older than two years).

TOEFL scores are only needed for students who did not complete their master's and/or bachelor's degrees at an English-speaking regionally accredited University.

10.) Submit a criminal background check with fingerprints or verification through employment records.

[Link to employment verification form.](#)

If you are not employed in an educational environment, please contact adult@cn.edu for background check instructions.

FAQs

Who can apply for the pathway to the EdD at Carson-Newman?

The target student is an ABD candidate in the field of education (educational leadership, C & I, higher education, special education, reading, instructional technology, school or district leadership, educational administration, and others based on a transcript analysis) from a regionally accredited university. The successful application will be in good standing with the previous institution, academically and financially, and was not dismissed for moral or ethical reasons.

No more than 15 years may have elapsed between application for enrollment in the Ed.D. Completion Pathway Program since the last enrollment in the previous program.

Admission is also open to students who have completed an EdS degree in the past 10 years from a regionally accredited institution. The completed EdS program must be comparable to the EdS program at Carson-Newman.

What is the application deadline?

Cohorts of the Ed.D. Completion pathway start every Spring A term. The deadline for all application materials for the ABD pathway is December 1st.

Students coming from EdS programs with fewer than 36 credit hours may also start in the Fall to complete additional credits to meet the 36-hour minimum. The deadline to be considered for applicants in this situation is August 1st.

What are the admissions requirements for the completion pathway (see Guidance to complete Application for additional application information)?

- No more than 15 years may have elapsed between application for enrollment in the Ed.D. Completion Pathway Program since the last enrollment in the previous program.
- OR
- No more than 10 years may have elapsed between application for enrollment in the Ed.D. Completion Pathway Program since conferral of an EdS from a regionally accredited university.
 - Verify good standing with the previous institution and no dismissal for ethical or moral issues.
 - Proof of eligibility status from a regionally approved program with official transcripts and link to the catalog.
 - A professional portfolio of sample coursework submissions and three (3) years of professional experience evidence, and career development
 - Master's/EdS Degree graduate GPA of 3.3 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
 - A virtual interview with graduate faculty
 - Three (3) letters of reference (professional or academic)

- An EDLDA (professional disposition assessment) completed by the applicant's immediate supervisor. The EDLDA (Education Leadership Disposition Assessment) is a valid and reliable instrument used to assess the professional dispositions of students in advanced programs and used by C-N to assess students three times in the doctoral program.
- Evidence of receiving a minimum score of 85 (Internet) on the TOEFL IBT Examination if English is not the student's first language (score may be no older than two years).
- Submit a criminal background check with fingerprints or verification through employment records in an educational environment.
- Students coming from EdS programs of less than 36 hours will be required to take 1-2 additional courses based on a transcript evaluation.

How long does the pathway program take to complete the EdD?

Candidates in the program, although ABD from another institution, will be required to enroll in four (4) graduate courses (12 hrs.) and two (2) semesters of dissertation (12 hrs.) for a total of 24 hours. These are 24 hours of continuous enrollment.

Candidates will also be expected to complete 3 non-credit courses to refresh their academic knowledge in current educational research.

The program is anticipated to be completed in four (4) semesters (approximately 15 months) or in five (5) semesters if coming from an EdS program with less than 36 credit hours.

Candidates in this program must complete all coursework and successfully defend the dissertation within five (5) years.

Candidates coming from EdS programs of less than 36 hours will be required to take 1-2 additional courses based on a transcript evaluation.

What if I already started a dissertation?

Candidates in this program will produce and defend a C-N dissertation in all aspects of the work. The C-N dissertation chair must approve the topic, the research question, the method, and all facets of the dissertation, regardless of the previous dissertation work completed at the last institution.

What concentrations are available in the Ed.D. Completion Pathway?

The Administrative Leadership and Curriculum & Instruction concentrations are available as part of the Ed.D. Completion Pathway. *Higher Education Administration concentration is not available as part of the Ed.D. Completion Pathway.

Can I get Administrative Licensure as part of the Ed.D. Completion Pathway?

No, this program is focused on Ed.D. completion and does not include the coursework required for the Instructional Leadership License in the State of TN.