The Letter of Eligibility (LOE) program is a residential program offered at University Park and has three important features:

The Education Leadership program has received approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for the courses and course sequence that lead to the PDE Superintendent Letter of Eligibility (LOE). This graduate certificate consists of the required credits for the PDE Superintendent Letter of Eligibility and will provide an additional credential for students who complete these credit requirements. The PDE Superintendent Letter of Eligibility (LOE) has additional requirements that need to be fulfilled in order for it to be awarded; contact the College of Education’s Advising & Certification Center for more information.

The Penn State courses for the Letter of Eligibility (LOE) for the Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent/Intermediate Unit Director have been evaluated by Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and The National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) standards. These preparation standards, formerly known as the Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC) standards, have been renamed the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) standards.

There are two options for obtaining the LOE: (a) for students in an Ed.D. or Ph.D. program, by pursuing the LOE as part of their doctoral coursework, or (b) for candidates only interested in pursuing the LOE, through the completion of the required 21 credits, the successful completion of the internship, and the receipt of a passing score on the Pennsylvania state mandated assessment.

Effective Semester: Spring 2021
Expiration Semester: Spring 2026