



## THE ADVANTAGES TO EARNING AN EdD OR THE PhD IN EDUCATION

An EdD and the PhD in Education offer different advantages. The one you choose should be based upon your academic interests as well as your ultimate career goals.

PROGRAM	DOCTOR OF EDUCATION	PhD IN EDUCATION
FOCUS	Walden's EdD degree can deepen your understanding of leading-edge developments in the field of education to prepare you to understand and make research-based decisions that can be immediately applied in your classroom, school district, or college environment.	Walden's PhD in Education degree can provide the skills to address the nation's most pressing educational challenges. You will conduct original research that can drive social change by contributing to the body of knowledge in the field of education.
DEGREE OBJECTIVES	Ensure that education professionals have the tools and skills necessary to implement research-based practices and effect positive social change. EdD programs are primarily designed for educators to take existing research and apply it to a specific issue, problem, or setting.	Prepare education professionals as they use grounded theory and research to expand their knowledge and impact as researchers, social change agents, teachers, instructional designers, or thought leaders.
OUTCOME OF LEARNING	To solve a problem of practice within your organization.	To test, confirm, or develop a theory or particular research problems in the profession.
CAREER OPTIONS	The EdD program is designed for educators who want a more hands-on leadership role in P-12, civil service, private or public institutions. You will be better prepared to improve your school or organization and become a teacher leader by applying your new knowledge of teaching and learning practices.	This PhD program prepares students for academic and research positions in higher education or in a corporate, military, or governmental workplace. PhD graduates may serve as educational consultants, instructional designers, thought leaders in their professions, and/or leaders in schools, universities, corporations, military settings, or government.
CAPSTONE	Dissertation or doctoral study	Dissertation
CAPSTONE FOCUS	Capstone research should address a gap in practice and contribute to the educational field of study. Program participants can choose to complete either a dissertation or doctoral study. Doctoral study findings should address a unique problem of practice in the local area. Dissertation findings should be focused on generalizable problems of practice.	Capstone research should address a gap in knowledge as reflected in the literature. Dissertation findings should provide empirical data to be used by practitioners to solve problems, and they must apply to the broader academic field.
RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS	One 4-day residency with the option of an additional advanced residency.	Four 4-day residencies; two of these residencies must be face-to-face, but the other two may be either face-to-face or virtual.
POINT OF ENTRY	Master's or Education Specialist degree	Master's or Education Specialist degree
PROGRAM LENGTH	Varies by student, pace, and credits transferred. Students may choose to take one or two courses at a time.	Varies by student, pace, and credits transferred. Students may choose to take one or two courses at a time.
CREDITS REQUIRED	79 quarter credits	86 quarter credits

**Find information on costs, occupation types, completion rates, and median loan debt for these programs at [www.WaldenU.edu/programdata](http://www.WaldenU.edu/programdata).**

Walden offers both state-approved educator licensure programs as well as programs and courses that do not lead to licensure or endorsements. Prospective students must review their state licensure requirements prior to enrolling. For more information, please refer to [www.WaldenU.edu/educlicensure](http://www.WaldenU.edu/educlicensure).

**Note to all Washington residents:** These programs are not intended to lead to teacher certification. Teachers are advised to contact their individual school districts as to whether this program may qualify for salary advancement.