

For Doctor of Education in Interdisciplinary Leadership (Ed.D.) Students



Invest in Your Leadership Potential

Congratulations! *Making the decision to pursue a Doctor of Education in Interdisciplinary Leadership (Ed.D.) with Texas Lutheran University puts you on a path toward enhanced effectiveness as an instructor, administrator, or advocate for education.*

Helping You Live Boldly

TLU is dedicated to supporting you on your doctoral education journey. The benefits of earning your Ed.D. online with us include:

- Flexible study that accommodates full-time work.
- Dissertation support from the very start of the program.
- A degree you can complete in as little as three years.
- Versatile skills for education, business, government, and more.

Earning your Ed.D. is an investment.

Even though you've likely been through the financial aid process before, it's worth reviewing again. This financial aid guide offers you an overview of how you can afford your Ed.D. degree, including:

- Tuition and fees for the Ed.D.
- How financial aid can help you
- Potential funding options
- How to apply for financial aid
- How to contact TLU with questions

PLEASE NOTE: This guide is informational and does not offer comprehensive financial advice. Costs, financial aid regulations, restrictions and availability are subject to change.

Helping You Live Boldly

At TLU, we want you to feel you have all the information you need as you prepare to pursue your Ed.D. with us.

Reach out to us via e-mail at studentfinancialservices@tlu.edu
or call **(830) 372-8010**
during business hours.

Email studentfinancialservices@tlu.edu or call 830-372-8010

How Financial Aid Can Help You

Financial aid can bring your goal of earning a TLU Ed.D. within reach

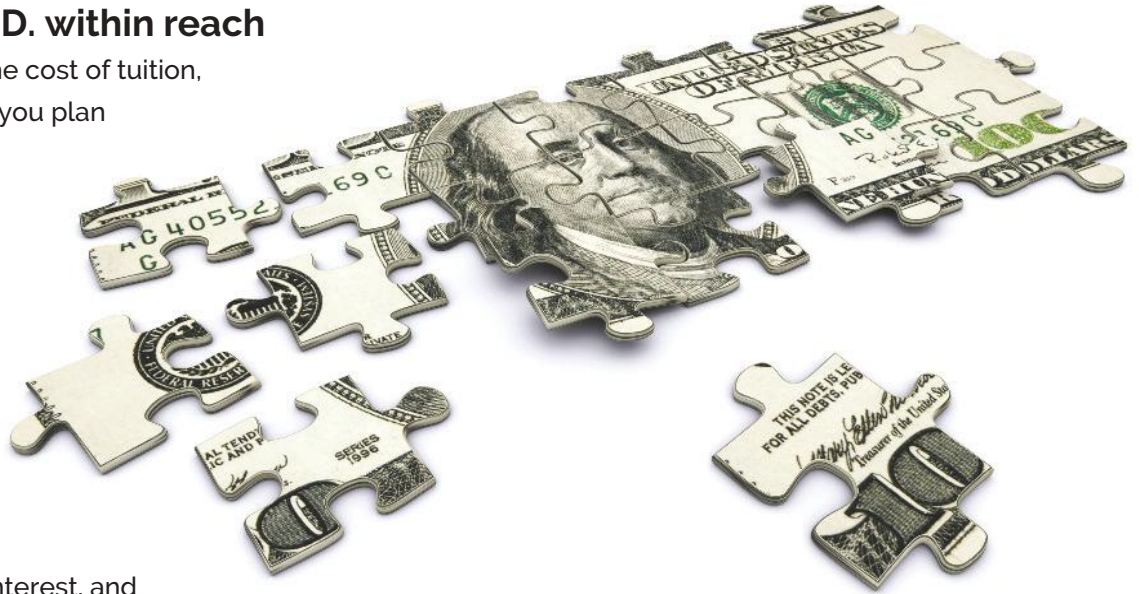
by helping you finance the cost of tuition, books, fees, and more. If you plan to take out loans to help finance your education, only borrow what you need to meet your costs.

Costs for the TLU Ed.D.

All costs listed on this page are estimates.

Tuition rates, fees, loan interest, and other items are subject to change at any time. This estimate should help guide you as you determine which financial aid options to pursue.

As always, if you have any questions, you can contact your admissions counselor (if you're still applying to the Ed.D.) or Student Financial Services (if you've been admitted already).



2023-2024 Estimated Ed.D. Program Costs

Total Program Tuition:	\$47,250 (54-credit program at \$875 per credit hour)
Student Services	\$1,890 (\$210 per semester)
Technology Fee	\$900 (\$100 per semester)

Estimated Total: \$50,040*

**Books not included*

Before You Apply, Do Your Homework

Even if you've been through the financial aid process before, we recommend you ask yourself the following questions before starting your financial aid application:

1 *How Much Do I Actually Need?*

Again, financial aid should only be used to pay for your Ed.D. degree.

Borrow only what you need to cover your education costs. If you are planning to work while you study - most of our Ed.D. students do - you will likely only need aid to cover tuition, books, and fees.

You may be eligible for an amount greater than this, but borrowing more than you need now means you will be obliged to pay more in the future.

2 *Have I Been Accepted to the Program?*

We can't offer you financial aid before you have been accepted to the Ed.D. program. Make sure you have submitted your application for admission to the Ed.D. program before you begin the financial aid application process. You can start applying for financial aid while your Ed.D. admission application is pending.

3 *What Deadlines Do I Need to Meet?*

Stay on top of deadlines for applications for all forms of financial aid you plan to pursue, including the FAFSA, private loan applications, private scholarships, and other funding. Also make sure you are aware of when any aid payments are disbursed, so you can be sure you are able to pay your tuition on time.

4 *What Funding Options Are Available?*

Financial aid eligibility depends on several factors, including:

- Your U.S. citizenship/permanent residency status
- How much you borrowed during your previous degree programs

As a graduate student, you will not qualify for any federal grants, including Pell grants. You will only have access to federal student loans (subject to borrowing limits), private student loans, and private scholarship opportunities.

5 *What Monthly Payment Will I Be Able to Afford After Graduation?*

Make a realistic estimate of what you can expect to earn in educational leadership after graduation. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics provides salary information for various management roles, including principals and administrators, in their **Occupational Outlook Handbook** (www.bls.gov/ooh/management/home.htm).

You can also search local job listings to gauge the salaries employers offer candidates with Ed.D. degrees. This will help you determine how much you can afford to pay on your loans each month.

Financial Aid Options & Resources



Grants and Scholarships

Grants and scholarships are sources of financial aid that you do not need to pay back.

For Ed.D. students, these are available from private foundations or state governments. Spend time researching your options online. Here is a selection of sites where you may be able to find more information:*

- CollegeScholarships.org: www.collegescholarships.org/grants/doctoral
- Community or professional scholarships: www.scholarships4students.com
- GreatCollegeDeals.net:
www.greatcollegedeals.net/scholarships/doctoralgrants-for-teachers-and-doctoral-grants-for-education
- Scholarships.com:
www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-major/education-scholarships
- Scholarship search engine: www.fastweb.com
- StudentGrants.org: www.studentgrants.org/doctoral-students
- TeachTomorrow.org: www.teachtomorrow.org/scholarships
- U.S. Department of Labor's free scholarship search tool:
www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx

**Third-party website listings do not imply or constitute an endorsement of those sites by Texas Lutheran University.*

Email studentfinancialservices@tlu.edu or call 830-372-8010

Financial Aid Options & Resources

You can apply for federal or private loans.

Federal loans are funded by the U.S. government and are subject to change due to laws passed by Congress. Private loans are funded by private banks and financial organizations and are subject to change at any time due to bank or financial organization policies.

In general, federal loans have lower interest rates than private loans. However, federal loans are subject to borrowing limits. As a prospective Ed.D. student, you already have a bachelor's and a master's degree, so it is possible you have already borrowed federal loans.

Make sure you know the borrowing limits and how much you have already borrowed before you apply. Stay aware of your cumulative loan debt and take appropriate actions to avoid default.

Aggregate Loan Limits on Federal Loans—Graduate

Aggregate loan limits are restrictions placed on the amount of money you can borrow in federal student loans over the course of your career. **This includes loans taken out for undergraduate study as well as graduate study.**

- **The lifetime federal loan limit is \$138,500** for graduate or professional students.

You can review your borrowing history and current loan status online at studentaid.gov.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans

The only loans available to graduate students are federal direct unsubsidized loans. These loans are not offered according to financial need. They begin to accrue interest right away. You can defer your payments while you are in school or pay while you study. **You can receive a total direct unsubsidized loan amount of up to \$20,500 per year.**

For more information about federal student loans, please visit studentaid.gov.

Students may also apply for a **Graduate PLUS Loan**. PLUS loan interest rates are generally higher than the unsubsidized loan but is an option for students who have borrowed their full unsubsidized direct loan eligibility.

Private Loans

Many students use private loans to supplement their federal loans. Financial institutions that offer private loans can include:

- National or local banks
- State agencies
- Credit unions

All students can apply for private loans. These loans often require a credit check or a credit-worthy co-signer to qualify. Additional information on private loans can be found at www.elmselect.com.

Financial Aid Options & Resources

Military and Veteran Benefits *(Pending approval by the VA)*

Active-duty military service members, veterans, and their qualifying family members may be eligible for education benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Potential Funding Sources

- Post-9/11 G.I. Bill Benefits
- Yellow Ribbon Program Funds (Texas Lutheran University is a proud participant)

Proving Eligibility

You will need to apply with the VA or Department of Defense (DOD) to pursue VA benefits for your education.

Veterans and service members:

- Visit www.gibill.va.gov and click on “Apply for Benefits”

Spouses:

- **FIRST**, your spouse must visit www.gibill.va.gov and click on “Apply for Benefits” to be awarded their educational benefits
- **NEXT**, your spouse must apply to transfer their educational benefits to you at www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect or through their Chain of Command
- **FINALLY**, you must visit www.gibill.va.gov yourself and apply to use your transferred educational benefits



How to Apply for Financial Aid

Now that you understand the costs of earning your Ed.D. with us and the financial aid options available to you, it's time to apply. Most of these steps are probably familiar to you, but we want to repeat them here as a refresher.

1

File Your FAFSA (Earlier Is Better)

Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid at studentaid.gov. As part of the FAFSA filing process, you will be asked to create a FSA ID which will be used to sign both the FAFSA and Federal Direct Loan master promissory notes should you borrow. It will also be required to log into studentaid.gov. The information on the FAFSA will be used to determine your eligibility for federal student loans.

Texas Lutheran University's school code for FAFSA is 003641

The annual FAFSA application opens on October 1st of the year before and ends in June of the aid year for which you are applying. The earlier you apply during that period, the better.

2

View and Accept Your Aid Offer

Once we've received your FAFSA, we will send you an e-mail to confirm we have it and to request any additional documents we might need from you.

After your FAFSA has been processed and an aid offer is available, we will send an email letting you know you can review your aid offer on our student portal.

Questions? Get in Touch with TLU.

We know financial aid can be complicated. That's why we're here to help. Contact us with any questions you have about affording your Ed.D. with us.

E-mail studentfinancialservices@tlu.edu
or call **(830) 372-8010** during business hours.



Learn Boldly. Live to Inspire.