

# SCHOOL DISCIPLINE REFORM CERTIFICATE

The School of Education and the School of Law at Loyola University Chicago offer an online certificate program for professionals committed to serving their students and their communities by understanding, shaping, and implementing prevention-oriented approaches to school discipline. This part-time program is designed to equip education professionals—superintendents, principals, other school and district-level administrators, school attorneys, discipline deans, school psychologists, school social workers, counselors, general and special education teachers, and other educators—with the tools and skills needed to lead comprehensive initiatives to reduce the use of suspensions and expulsions and their adverse impacts on vulnerable students.

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

- The Certificate in School Discipline Reform is awarded to students who successfully complete four 2-credit-hour courses. These courses can be completed on a part-time basis over 1 or 2 years.
- The online program offers flexible coursework that combines individual and group learning experiences to accommodate students' busy schedules.
- Courses are organized into class sessions called modules, which are accompanied by online, downloadable lectures, reading assignments, quizzes, and writing exercises.
- Students and professors come together periodically for live online class discussion and for presentations by nationally recognized educators and researchers in the field of school discipline.
- Loyola provides step-by-step orientation to the learning management system and ample help to guide new and continuing students.

## PROGRAM DISTINCTIONS

This certificate program equips you to:

- Understand the fundamental legal principles and laws that guide school discipline practices
- Describe research on school discipline, evidence-supported practices to address student behaviors, and system factors that impact the implementation of these practices
- Analyze school and district-level discipline data and conduct a needs assessment related to school discipline in your respective setting
- Develop an action plan to implement prevention-oriented alternatives to exclusionary discipline in your school or district
- Plan, facilitate, and reflect on effective restorative dialogue and a variety of proactive and responsive circles
- Apply the principles of restorative practices to address a challenge that your school or district is facing

**EXPERIENCE**

You will benefit from training at an intensive seminar on restorative justice at Loyola University Chicago. This seminar offers you an opportunity to build relationships with colleagues from around the country and, through experiential exercises and lively discussion, internalize core principles of restorative practices.

**FINANCIAL AID**

Begin the financial aid process by completing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).  
Learn more about the financial aid process at [LUC.edu/finaid](http://LUC.edu/finaid).

**APPLICATION INFORMATION**

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis up until the application deadline. The fall semester application deadline is July 1. The spring semester application deadline is December 15.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Current resume
- Neither the GRE nor the LSAT is required for admission
- Statement of purpose indicating professional and/or personal reasons for pursuing this certificate
- Transcripts from all universities or colleges attended
- Working in or placed in a school or district setting

**LEARN MORE**

APPLICATION INFORMATION AND DEADLINES

[gpem.LUC.edu/apply](http://gpem.LUC.edu/apply)

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CONTACT INFORMATION

*For further information about the academic program, or to arrange a visit, please contact:*

School of Education  
Loyola University Chicago  
820 N. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611

PHONE: 312.915.6800

EMAIL: [SchIEduc@LUC.edu](mailto:SchIEduc@LUC.edu)

ONLINE: [LUC.edu/education](http://LUC.edu/education)

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NOT APPLYING ONLINE?

*Send all supporting documents to:*

Graduate and Professional Enrollment Management  
Loyola University Chicago  
820 N. Michigan Avenue  
Lewis Towers 1200  
Chicago, IL 60611

PHONE: 312.915.8950

EMAIL: [GradApp@LUC.edu](mailto:GradApp@LUC.edu)

ONLINE: [gpem.LUC.edu/apply](http://gpem.LUC.edu/apply)

