1) May I continue my work as a full-time educator while enrolled in the Tier I M.Ed. Cohort?
Yes. The Tier I Cohort is designed for working professionals.

2) Must I currently serve in an educational leadership position in order to enroll in the Tier I M.Ed. Cohort?
No. Classroom teachers are eligible to self-select and to enroll in this initial certification program.

3) Where and when are classes offered?

Educational leadership certification courses are offered on the UGA Gwinnett Campus. Most courses are offered in a blended format with some face-to-face class sessions and some online sessions each semester. Weekday classes are typically scheduled from 5:00-7:45. Some weekend classes are offered.

4) What are the assessment requirements for Tier I Educational Leadership Certification?

In addition to successful completion of all coursework, candidates for Tier I certification will be required to complete GaPSC–required assessments (Educational Leadership GACE, Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership Assessment – Program Entry and Program Exit), as well as meet any other GaPSC requirements. Candidates will apply for Tier I Educational Leadership Certification through the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

5) Does the program include a culminating project?

Yes. M.Ed. candidates select a Demonstration of Learning Research Project based on an identified problem of practice, policy or procedural issue. Candidates present a comprehensive project in which they synthesize their learning over the course of the M.Ed. program, linking educational leadership knowledge in the 2015 Georgia Educational Leadership Standards to improved leadership practice in schools and districts for student success.

6) For what educational leadership positions will I be prepared?
The Tier I M.Ed. program leads to initial educational leadership certification and prepares candidates to serve as assistant principals or coordinators at the district level who do not supervise principals. Admission to and completion of Tier I do not ensure employment in a leadership position. Under state law, completion of an approved Tier I program will not lead to additional pay until employed by a Local Unit of Administration (LUA) in a leadership position that requires Tier I certification.