

**Sam Houston State University**  
**College of Education**  
**Center for Research and Doctoral Studies in Educational Leadership**

**Required Pre-Graduation Competencies for Doctoral Students**

1. Attend a doctoral dissertation proposal prior to beginning your own dissertation
2. Attend a doctoral dissertation defense prior to beginning your own dissertation
3. Plan, organize, and facilitate a workshop, conference, or professional meeting (e.g., SHSU Graduate Research Exchange, Symposium on Higher Education Leadership)
4. Serve on the Editorial Review Board for the SHSU Graduate Journal
5. Co-teach or serve as an instructor (assistant) in a university course for one semester (EDL 787 Independent Study can be negotiated).
6. Present a research paper at a national or regional peer-reviewed conference (e.g., NCPEA, UCEA, AERA, AACTE).
7. Submit a research article (sole author or co-author with a faculty member) in a peer-reviewed Tier 1 or Tier 2 professional journal.
8. Submit a press-release of dissertation to Dr. Lunenburg for lay publication.

Physical evidence of completion of all competencies must be provided by the student prior to completion of the written comprehensive examinations. Part of the oral comprehensive examinations will include describing the competencies and their successful completion.