

**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE of EDUCATION/Division of Education**

COURSE SYLLABUS



Course Title: School Finance

Course Number: EDAD 832

Credit Hours: 3 Graduate Hours

Trimester: Fall 1999

Instructor: Kenneth A. Peterson – Superintendent Emeritus, Brookwood School District; Director, GSU Administrators Guild; University Lecturer
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Course Description:

Primary focus on the financing of Illinois Public Schools. The theoretical background and legal bases of public school finance and the application of those theories to various school finance models. Budget analysis, state aid mechanisms, taxing and auditing processes, and legal foundations in relation to salary, transportation, contracts, liability, and managing facilities will be emphasized. Practicing consultants, school business managers, case studies, and simulated materials will be used to highlight practical applications.

Prerequisite:

EDAD 621

Intended Audience:

Graduate students in Educational Administration

Required Texts:

Percy E. Burrup, Vern Brimley, Jr., and Rulon R. Garfield. Financing Education in a Climate of Change, 7th ed. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon, 1999.

Instructional Objectives:

Students will:

1. Analyze the budgeting, levying and taxing concepts of financing of public education.
2. Apply concepts of taxing, state aid and other revenues to the budgeting process.
3. Understand the expenditures necessary to the operation of a school system.
4. Analyze the state and federal funding of public education.
5. Comprehend the legal basis for financing public schools.
6. Comprehend the role of the Chief School Business in managing salary, benefits, transportation, contracts, and facilities.
7. Analyze cultural influences on school finance.

Topical Outline:

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
Economics of Education	Chapter 1
Financing Education Adequately	Chapter 2
Financing Education Equitably	Chapter 3
Patterns for Developing School Finance Systems	Chapter 4
Sources of Revenue	Chapter 5
Eroding Local Control	Chapter 6
Education: A state function	Chapter 7
Federal Interest in Education	Chapter 8
Influence and Climate of the Courts	Chapter 9

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Public Funds and Nonpublic Schools	Chapter 10
Financing School Facilities	Chapter 11
Administering the School Budget	Chapter 12
Auditing and Accounting	Chapter 13
Property, Risk Management, and Insurance	Chapter 14
Human Resources and School Finance	Chapter 15
The Road Ahead in School Finance	Chapter 16

Activities/Assignments:

1. Differentiate between an adequate and equitable education.
2. Analyze various school district budgets.
3. Analyze funding formulas from an historical perspective.
4. Prepare a written project report relating to school finance.

Evaluation:

Course work reflecting excellence will receive a grade of “A”. The midterm and final examinations will include questions taken from class discussions, the text and examples utilized in class.