

Future Leaders Pathway FAQ's 2025-2026

What are the course PAC Codes?

Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership (1 year) **MH40G**

Master of Educational Leadership and Management (21 months) **MH45G**

Master of Educational Leadership and Management (9 months Top Up) **MH47G**

In there any financial support available for this programme?

Please consult [Revenue](#) for details.

Please consult [Teacher Fee Refund Scheme](#)

Will I need to apply for Year 2 via MU Apply? If so, do I have to pay an extra PAC fee?

If you exit with and graduate with a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership and Management PGDELM (after year 1), you will need to re-apply for the top-up programme via MU Apply **T-M.Ed. ELM (MH47G)** and, yes, this top-up application will incur a fee.

Please note there must be a gap of at least one academic year between completion (i.e., publication of results) of the recognised postgraduate educational leadership and/or educational management diploma programme and application to the T-M.Ed. ELM programme.

Can I defer my place on PGDELM (Postgraduate Diploma in Education Leadership and Management)?

Yes, if you are successful in achieving a place on the programme you may defer for a period of 1 year only upon payment of a deposit. Please note, a place in your initial centre of choice cannot be guaranteed in the case of deferral.

Can I defer my place on M.Ed. ELM?

Yes. You have two options.

1. Defer registration until the following academic year (or later) when you complete the final 30 credits of the programme.
2. If you registered for M.Ed. ELM and choose to take a year out, you can exit with a postgraduate diploma and then apply for the T-M.Ed. ELM (Top-up) programme. If you choose this route then please note that you must leave a gap of at least one academic year between completion (i.e., publication of results) and application for the T-M.Ed. ELM programme. Places on T- M.Ed. ELM are limited and allocated on a first come first served basis. Once the limit has been reached, no further applications will be accepted. Applicants should apply early to avoid disappointment.

Can I defer my place on T-M.Ed. ELM?

No, deferral is not possible.

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If I wish to exit the M.Ed. ELM with the Diploma, is this possible?

You should register for the programme you intend to undertake. If you register for the M.Ed. ELM, it is possible to transfer to the PGDELM in February of the first year and exit with the Diploma if you complete the year successfully.

Likewise, if you register for the PGD ELM, and wish to transfer to the M.Ed. ELM then this is also possible. Again, you will need to signal the intent to change programmes, i.e., from PGD ELM to M.Ed. ELM in February of your first year.

If, you successfully *complete and graduate with* the PGDELM and wish to undertake the Master of Educational Leadership and Management programme, then you will need to apply for entry to the T-M.Ed. ELM. Please be aware that you must have graduated prior to applying for the T-M.Ed. ELM and you must leave a gap of at least one-year academic year between completion of the PGD ELM (i.e., publication of results) and application for the T-M.Ed. ELM programme. The T-M.Ed. ELM is a restricted programme with limited numbers admitted annually.

If I choose to take a break between year 1 (Diploma) and 2 (Masters), will I be guaranteed a place on T- M.Ed. ELM?

No, you will not be guaranteed a place. You will need to apply for a place on the top up (T-M.Ed. ELM, MH47G) programme. This is a restricted programme with limited numbers admitted annually.

Who is eligible to apply for T-M.Ed. ELM?

This is a Top-Up qualification and is open to all graduates (Maynooth University and Non-Maynooth University graduates) of recognised postgraduate educational leadership and/or educational management diploma programmes. A minimum of a Postgraduate Diploma in educational leadership and/or management or cognate areas, e.g. school leadership (60 credit, Level 8 threshold) will be required for entry to the programme.

If I already have Research methods completed from doing another Masters do I need to complete that module again in T- M.Ed. ELM?

Yes, you do.

If I have 1st hons in my PGDELM, will I be weighted more heavily for a place on T- M.Ed. ELM?

No

Do credits from other Level 9 courses count in the completion of T- M.Ed. ELM?

No, they do not.

Can I apply for the M.Ed. and T- M.Ed. ELM and if I only get a place on the Masters can I transfer internally to T- M.Ed. ELM?

No.

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If I have completed a postgraduate diploma in educational leadership and/or management in Maynooth, will I be weighted more heavily for a place on T-M.Ed. ELM?

No. All applications (Maynooth graduates and non-Maynooth graduates) for the T-M.Ed. ELM programme are weighted equally. Places are allocated on a first come first served basis.

I am an international student. If offered a place on the T-M.Ed. ELM, will I have to attend Maynooth in person or can I complete all my studies online?

In the main the programme will run online although you will be expected to attend Maynooth in person on six occasions over the course of the year. These are:

- 1) One Saturday in late September (10-4pm)
- 2) Thursday in late September (5-8pm)
- 3) Thursday in late October (5-8pm)
- 4) Thursday in late November (5-8pm)
- 5) Thursday in late January (5-8pm)
- 6) Thursday in late February (5-8pm)

All other sessions, including four supervision meetings are planned as online events. Module ED684 is planned as a series of asynchronous online events which can be managed within your own schedule however on-going weekly commitment is required throughout the programme.