

Graduates of the Executive Potential Program Earn a Graduate Certificate in Public Service Leadership from Thomas Edison State College

Graduates of the Executive Potential Program at the USDA Graduate School have the opportunity to earn a graduate certificate in **Public Service Leadership** from Thomas Edison State College. The College has recently formalized a partnership with the USDA: Executive Potential Program. The agreement allows Executive Potential Program graduates to receive a graduate certificate once after they complete 12 graduate credits at Thomas Edison State College.

Thomas Edison State College is a recognized leader in providing a superior quality college education for adult learners. The MSM degree was designed using online, innovative approaches that have students working together in a learning atmosphere that connects students with each other and graduate mentors for support. This online learning community provides a rare opportunity to discuss key management and leadership issues with serious students from other government agencies, the corporate and nonprofit sectors, and financial, medical and educational institutions.

The online format means that students study on their own schedule without having to travel to attend classes on campus at a set time. This program is an excellent opportunity to study with other students interested in applying the core management principles to their specific work environment. Students use workplace projects and challenges as the foundation for course projects.

Core competencies for the MSM degree program were designed and developed with the support and partnership of major employers like Public Service Electric and Gas, Merrill Lynch and Verizon. The first students, AT&T managers recruited and admitted with corporate support, evaluated each step in the process and provided feedback.

Requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Public Service Leadership:

- 1) Successful completion of the Executive Potential Program
- 2) Complete 12 credits from Thomas Edison State College's graduate level courses

Thomas Edison State College is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The College is also a member of the Council of Graduate School, the largest national association organized to represent the interests of graduate education. Thomas Edison State College was identified by *Forbes* magazine as one of the top 20 colleges in the nation in the use of technology to create learning opportunities for adults.

Thomas Edison State College was established by the State of New Jersey and chartered by the New Jersey Board of Higher Education in 1972 to provide diverse and alternative methods of achieving a collegiate education of the highest quality for mature adults. Since then, more than 19,000 degrees have been awarded using the richest array of assessment and independent study options available at any college or university.

The College is located in Trenton, N.J., but through distance learning technologies pioneered by Thomas Edison State College, students earn degrees from any location, whenever and wherever it is convenient for them.

For more information:

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