Special Education (SED)

533 DeGarmo Hall, (309) 438-8980
Education.IllinoisState.edu/SED
Acting Chairperson: Dr. Susan Hildebrandt

Programs Offered
M.S., Special Education Sequence, and Interdisciplinary Early Intervention Sensory Disabilities Sequence, M.S.Ed., Ed.D. in Special Education, and Post-Master’s Graduate Certificate for Director of Special Education.

Certificates offered: Behavior Intervention Specialist, Curriculum Adaptation Specialist, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Listening and Spoken Language Professional Graduate Specialization Certificate, Early Intervention Vision Specialist, Multiple Disability Specialist, Technology Specialist, Transition Specialist.

Master of Science Degree Programs

Special Education Sequence Requirements
This 39-hour degree requires:
- 24 hours: EAF 410 or 415; SED 409, 410, 422 or 472, 440, 445 or 470, 448, and 454. Students successfully completing the core are considered to have Advanced Graduate status.
- 6 hours: An area of concentration or approved sequence of electives to be determined with the graduate advisor, including a minimum of 6 hours of graduate work.
- 9 hours: A pre-approved capstone research or application project including SED 482 and a minimum of 6 additional hours from SED 498 or SED 499. Students must have attained Advanced Graduate status to begin the capstone experience.

Candidates will prepare an individual student portfolio documenting that all requirements established in the Department of Special Education Performance-Based Assessment System have been successfully met. This documentation includes multiple measures of knowledge, performance, and disposition standards. A current listing of portfolio requirements can be obtained from the Department.

Interdisciplinary Early Intervention Sensory Disabilities Sequence Requirements
This 33-hour sequence requires:
- 24 total hours in major department
- SED 409, 420, 421, 423, 440, 482, 498A03 (6 hours); CSD 406, CSD 420 or CSD 412; EAF 410
- The required courses must be completed with grades not lower than a “C” while maintaining a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.00 for retention in the program.

Prerequisite: Students must have completed a bachelor’s degree or higher in Special Education with an emphasis in blind/partially sighted or deaf/hard of hearing.

Master of Science in Education Degree

Program Requirements
The Master of Science in Education degree is intended for teachers with prior general education licensure who are currently teaching with a special education caseload or are seeking special education endorsement.

This 39-hour degree requires:
- 30 hours: EAF 410 or 415; SED 406, 407, 410, 422, 440, 445, 448, 454 and 477. Students successfully completing the core are considered to have Advanced Graduate status.
- 6 hours: An area of concentration or approved sequence of electives to be determined with the graduate advisor, including a minimum of 6 hours of graduate work.
- 3 hours: A two-semester Clinical Capstone experience including SED 490 (1 credit hour) and SED 491 (2 credit hour). Students must have attained Advanced Graduate status to begin the capstone experience.

Candidates will prepare an individual student portfolio documenting that all requirements established in the Department of Special Education Performance-Based Assessment System have been successfully met. This documentation includes multiple measures of knowledge, performance, and disposition standards. A current listing of portfolio requirements can be obtained from the Department.

Post-Master’s Graduate Certificate for Director of Special Education Program Requirements
Requirements for endorsement as a Director of Special Education may be met through a post-master’s degree program (Doctorate in Special Education) or through a non-degree program. Students seeking Director of Special Education endorsement must be admitted to the department as a post-master’s graduate certificate student or as a doctoral student. Coursework will enable students to meet ISBE standards leading to the Director of Special Education endorsement.

This 24-hour post-master’s graduate certificate requires:
- 18 hours: EAF 434*, SED 447, 502, 513, 517, 579
- 6 hours: 598A03
- Depending on coursework completed at the master’s level, the student may need to complete SED 422 or an equivalent to meet Illinois State Board of Education professional license endorsement requirements.

*This course may be fulfilled by those who have a principal endorsement master’s degree. Substitute this with a foundational course.

**Doctoral Program Requirements**
All doctoral candidates must complete a minimum of 75 semester hours to include:
- 23 hours of core course work: EAF 415, 508 or 509, 510; SED 501, 502, 512, 513, 540
- 22 hours of specialized course work consisting of: SED 514, 515, 522, 579, 591, 594, 598A01, 598A02
- 15 hours of electives
- 15 hours of dissertation work resulting in an approved dissertation
- Other university requirements for doctoral degrees are listed elsewhere in this catalog.

**Graduate Certificate Programs in Special Education**
All graduate certificates: Students must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point and have a minimum grade of C in each required course. Performance-based portfolios are required.

Program completers in the Behavior Intervention, Curriculum Adaptation, Multiple Disabilities, Technology, or Transition graduate certificate programs who pass a state certification examination may also receive an advanced teaching endorsement from the Illinois State Board of Education.

**Behavior Intervention Specialist:**
Certificate requirements include:
- Prerequisites: SED 101, 145, or 411 or equivalent survey course
- 15 hours: SED 410, 448, 449, 452, and 454. SED 410, 448, 449, and 452 require application of knowledge and skills with appropriate student populations
- Students may be required to have concurrent enrollment in SED 498 if not currently teaching in a setting that allows for application of these skills.

**Curriculum Adaptation Specialist:**
Certificate requirements include:
- Prerequisites: SED 101, 145, or 411 or equivalent survey course
- 12 hours are required including SED 410, 422, 445, and 454. SED 410, 422, and 445 require application of knowledge and skills with appropriate student populations
- Students may be required to have concurrent enrollment in SED 498 if not currently teaching in a setting that allows for application of these skills.

**Def and Hard of Hearing Listening and Spoken Language Professional Graduate Specialization Certificate:**
Certificate requirements include:
- Prerequisites: SED 101, 145, or 411 or equivalent survey course
- 12 hours are required including SED 402, 403, 404, and 405
- Some courses require application of knowledge and skills with appropriate student populations; therefore, students will be required to enroll in 3-6 semester hours of SED 498 unless this requirement is specifically waived by the department.

**Early Intervention Vision Specialist:**
This 15-hour certificate requires:
- SED 414, 415, 416, 417; and 498A02 Professional Practice
- 3.0 Cumulative graduate GPA

**Multiple Disabilities Specialist:**
Certificate requirements include:
- Prerequisites: SED 101, 145, or 411 or equivalent survey course
- A minimum of one year or current experience teaching students with severe or multiple disabilities
- 15 hours: SED 470, 471, 472, 473, and 474
- Some courses require application of knowledge and skills with appropriate student populations. Students may be required to have concurrent enrollment in SED 498 Professional Practice if not currently teaching in a setting that allows for application of these skills.

**Technology Specialist:**
Certificate requirements include:
- Prerequisites: SED 101, 145, or 411 or equivalent survey course
- 9 hours: SED 377, 379, and 479
- Students who have not completed Technology Passport requirements will also be required to complete TCH 401 or an equivalent course.
SED 479 requires application of knowledge and skills with appropriate student populations. Students may be required to have concurrent enrollment in SED 498 Professional Practice if not currently teaching in a setting that allows for application of these skills.

**Transition Specialist:**
Certificate requirements include:

- Prerequisite: SED 101, 145, or 411 or equivalent survey course
- 12 hours are required including SED 451, 453, 455, and 457
- All courses require application of knowledge and skills with appropriate student populations. Students may be required to have concurrent enrollment in SED 498 Professional Practice if not currently teaching in a setting that allows for application of these skills.

*Certificate programs with an asterisk are currently closed to new admissions.

**Special Education Courses:**
[coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/sed/](coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/sed/)

**All Courses:**
[coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/](coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/)