

SPECIAL EDUCATION (MED)



Master of Education in Special Education

Unit: College of Education and Human Development (<http://louisville.edu/education/>) (GE)
 Department: Special Education, Early Childhood, and Prevention Science (<http://louisville.edu/education/departments/sped/>)
 Program Website (<https://louisville.edu/education/degrees/med-se/>)
 Academic Plan Code(s): See Degree Requirements tab.

Program Information

This program is completed 100% online (<http://louisville.edu/online/programs/masters/master-of-education-in-special-education/>).

The MEd in Special Education with a concentration in Learning and Behavior Disorders, or Moderate and Severe Disabilities, is designed for the Kentucky certified teacher to add certification. Bachelor's-level certified teachers may use the program to add certification in LBD or MSD, and complete the required Rank II/master's degree. Teachers who have already earned a master's degree may use the program to add certification and complete the Rank I.

Learning and Behavior Disorders

Through the MEd in Special Education with a concentration in Learning and Behavior Disorders program, teachers increase their knowledge and expertise in teaching students with Behavior Disorders, Learning Disabilities, Mild Mental Disabilities, and Orthopedic Impairments at all grade levels from kindergarten through high school.

Moderate and Severe Disabilities

The MEd in Special Education with a concentration in Moderate and Severe Disabilities program prepares candidates to teach students with intellectual disabilities that impede academic achievement and adaptive behavior skills (e.g., communication, social behavior, and daily living activities).

Elementary teachers work primarily with beginning or remedial skills in academic content (English language arts, math, science, and social studies) and adaptive behaviors. Middle Grades and Secondary teachers address these skills in addition to preparing students to transition to vocations or to post-secondary education.

Although this program has determined that it meets educational requirements for licensure in other US states and jurisdictions, this program is designed specifically to align with Kentucky certification requirements for the supervised student teaching or culminating clinical experience. **Therefore, students in this program are required to complete their student teaching or clinical experience at an approved placement**

location in the state of Kentucky. Please contact the program director to discuss possible arrangements to complete culminating experiences in Southern Indiana before enrolling in the program.

Degree Summary

Code	Title	Hours
Core Coursework *		18
Area of Emphasis (Concentration)		18
Minimum Total Hours		36

* EDSP 540 and Teacher Certification are prerequisites for program entry.

Admission Requirements

Applicants are required to submit the following materials:

- Graduate Application to the Graduate School (<http://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/apply-materials/application/>)
- Admission to the College of Education and Human Development
- Baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited institution
- Valid Kentucky Teaching Certificate or Statement of Eligibility** for candidates outside Kentucky (<https://louisville.edu/online/programs/masters/master-of-education-in-special-education/>).
 - If you are certified in Kentucky, please indicate that on your application. You are not required to submit this documentation as we have access through the Education Professional Standards Board.
 - If you are certified in another state, please read the Out of State (<https://louisville.edu/online/programs/masters/master-of-education-in-special-education/>) disclaimer.
- Official transcripts with a 2.75 minimum GPA in the Bachelor's degree and a 3.0 or higher GPA for graduate work
- Two letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- Signed Professional Code of Ethics/Technology User Agreement/Statement of Understanding of Admissions Guidelines

Note: The GRE is no longer required for this degree program.

Candidates who earned a baccalaureate (and/or advanced) degree outside the United States and whose native language is not English must submit official TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo scores that meet minimum criteria, and must submit an evaluated transcript from WES (World Education Services) or ECE (Educational Credential Evaluators).

Program Requirements

MEd in Special Education with a concentration in Learning and Behavior Disorders (grades P-12)

Academic Plan code(s): SPE_MEDLBO

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Prerequisite for entry into the program</i>		
Teacher Certification		
EDSP 540	Introduction to Exceptional Children (or equivalent)	
Inquiry (Critical Thinker)		9
EDSP 644	Applied Behavior Analysis ¹	
EDSP 639	Education Research in P-12 Setting	
EDSP 669	Single Case Research Methods and Designs	

Advocacy (Professional Leader)		6
EDSP 652	Academic and Behavior Response to Intervention	
EDSP 627	Applications of Assistive Technology	
Action (Problem Solver)		3
EDSP 645	Learning and Behavior Disorders Practicum ¹	
Midpoint Assessment		
Area of Emphasis		18
EDSP 647	Teaching Mathematics to Students with Disabilities	
EDSP 512	Methods for Students with Learning and Behavior Disorders ¹	
EDSP 516	Assessment Procedures for Students with Learning & Behavior Disorders ¹	
EDSP 675	Characteristics, Needs, and Responses to Students with EBD ¹	
EDSP 518	Structured Literacy for Diverse Learners ¹	
EDSP 570	Autism: Introduction and Understanding or EDSP 650 Behavior Assessment	
Minimum Total Hours		36

¹ Course is required for certification.

Midpoint Assessment: Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher; grade no lower than "B-" in all coursework; Target performance or better on all Hallmark Assessment Tasks to date (EDSP 512, EDSP 516, EDSP 518, and EDSP 644); Target performance or better on all Advanced Program rubrics.

Exit Assessment: Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher; grade no lower than "B-" in all coursework; Target performance or better on all Hallmark Assessment Tasks; Target performance or better on all Advanced Program rubrics; positive recommendation from the Special Education Program Committee.

Degree Candidacy: Students not enrolled during the semester in which they intend to graduate must register for degree candidacy as outlined in the Graduate Catalog (<https://catalog.louisville.edu/graduate/general-policies-procedures-requirements/>).

Successful completion of appropriate PRAXIS Exams is required for Learning and Behavior Disorders teacher certification.

PRAXIS Disclaimer:

"Teacher certification requirements are subject to change. Before registering for PRAXIS test(s), please refer to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) website at epsb.ky.gov/ (<http://www.epsb.ky.gov/>) or ets.org/praxis (http://www.ets.org/praxis/ky/?WT.ac=praxishome_states_150414) for current requirements."

MEd in Special Education with a concentration in Moderate and Severe Disabilities (grades P-12)

Academic Plan Code(s): SPEMEDMSO

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Prerequisite for admission to the program:</i>		
	Teacher Certification	

EDSP 540	Introduction to Exceptional Children	
Inquiry (Critical Thinker)		9
EDSP 644	Applied Behavior Analysis ¹	
EDSP 639	Education Research in P-12 Setting	
EDSP 669	Single Case Research Methods and Designs	
Advocacy: (Professional Leader)		6
EDSP 652	Academic and Behavior Response to Intervention	
EDSP 627	Applications of Assistive Technology	
Action (Problem Solver)		3
EDSP 635	Moderate and Severe Disabilities Practicum	
Mid-Point Assessment		
Area of Emphasis		18
EDSP 594	Foundational Concepts in Intellectual and Physical Disability ¹	
EDSP 520	Assessment of Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities	
EDSP 609	Moderate/Severe Disabilities Curriculum and Methods I ¹	
EDSP 611	Moderate/Severe Disabilities Curriculum and Methods II ¹	
EDSP 570	Autism: Introduction and Understanding	
EDSP 546	Behavior Analytic Approach to Communication ¹	
Minimum Total Hours		36

¹ Course required for certification.

Midpoint Assessment: Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher; grade no lower than "B-" in all coursework; Target performance or better on all Hallmark Assessment Tasks to date (EDSP 520, EDSP 609, EDSP 611, and EDSP 644); Target performance or better on all Advanced Program rubrics.

Exit Assessment: Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher; grade no lower than "B-" in all coursework; Target performance or better on all Hallmark Assessment Tasks; Target performance or better on all Advanced Program rubrics; positive recommendation from the Special Education Program Committee.

Degree Candidacy: Students not enrolled during the semester in which they intend to graduate must register for degree candidacy as outlined in the Graduate Catalog (<https://catalog.louisville.edu/graduate/general-policies-procedures-requirements/>).

Successful completion of the appropriate PRAXIS Exams is required for Moderate and Severe Disabilities teacher certification.

Praxis Disclaimer:

"Teacher certification requirements are subject to change. Before registering for the test(s), please refer to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) website at www.epsb.ky.gov (<http://www.epsb.ky.gov/>) or <http://www.ets.org/praxis/ky/> (<http://www.ets.org/praxis/ky/>) for current requirements."

The Master of Education in Special Education program prepares students to meet the requirements for certification and/or licensure. If you plan to pursue professional licensure or certification you should first determine your state's criteria for examination and licensure to see how/if our program meets those requirements prior to enrollment. We recommend

that you also contact your state's licensing board directly to verify that the requirements have not changed recently and to answer any questions especially those regarding additional requirements beyond the degree.

Although this program has determined that it meets educational requirements for licensure in other US states and jurisdictions, this program is designed specifically to align with Kentucky certification requirements for the supervised student teaching or culminating clinical experience. Therefore, students in this program are required to complete their student teaching or clinical experience at an approved placement location in the state of Kentucky. Please contact the program director to discuss possible arrangements to complete culminating experiences in Southern Indiana before enrolling in the program.

More information about certification or licensure is available at the following website: <https://louisville.edu/oapa/licensure-information> (<https://louisville.edu/oapa/licensure-information/>) (you may search by school or by the name of the program then click on 'View Details' to display the information).

For programs with an online option, more information about certification or licensure is available here: <https://louisville.edu/online/About-Us?tab=disclosures> (<https://louisville.edu/online/About-Us/?tab=disclosures>).