
GRADUATE SCHOOL

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Degree

Master's Degree in Special Education

Concentrations Areas:

Learning Behavior Specialist II

- Curricular Adaptation
- Behavior Intervention
- Technology
- Transition
- Multiple Disabilities

Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Low Vision and Blindness

Others by Advisement

Financial support

Graduate assistantships and tuition waivers are offered to selected students as available. Information included in admission materials.

Apply On-Line

www.IllinoisState.edu/apply

Department Admissions Materials

Ph: 309-438-8980

E-mail: lrhinh@ilstu.edu

Catalog Requests

Ph: 309-438-2181

E-mail: bjguets@ilstu.edu

Website: www.ilstu.edu/home/catalog

Graduate School

Website: www.grad.ilstu.edu

**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**



Department of Special Education

Objective

A student may work toward a Master of Science or a Master of Science in Education degree by fulfilling the requirements specified in the catalog. The master's degree program prepares teachers to assume the advanced roles which special educators are called upon to fill. The core curriculum assures that all graduates of this degree program can successfully assume these roles at an advanced level:

1. Master Instructor, Curriculum Developer, Specialist
2. Mentor, Supervisor, Master Communicator
3. Collaborator, Problem Solver, Team Facilitator
4. Action Researcher, Research Associate, Lifelong Learner
5. Advocate, Change Agent, Policy Maker

The curriculum reflects the core propositions expressed in the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards philosophical foundation, upon which the NBPTS standards are based. Beyond this core, concentration areas are available for advancement in specialized areas.

Faculty

The Department of Special Education has a graduate faculty of 20 who specialize in inclusive education, curriculum and instructional strategies, assistive technology, behavior change, transition, advanced assessment and instruction, and other research areas. Faculty areas of expertise by disability include Learning and Behavior Disorders, Severe and Multiple Disabilities, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Visual Impairment.

Entrance expectations

Eligibility for admission is dependent upon the following:

1. Baccalaureate Degree.
2. Minimum grade point average in the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale OR Graduate Record Examinations scores, with a minimum combined score of 1000 on any two subtests.
3. Current teaching certificate and one year of successful teaching experience OR successful petition to the Department of Special Education Graduate Admissions Committee.
4. Prerequisite coursework, including survey of special education, educational assessment, and applied behavior analysis OR these will be noted as deficiency courses that must be completed prior to enrolling in SED 400 level courses.
5. The applicant's stated professional development goals can be expected to be facilitated by completion of this master's degree program.
6. Evidence of disposition for advanced study in the special education profession

Admission procedure

The prospective student should obtain an admissions packet from the Graduate School and submit the required materials as directed. Final acceptance into the program is determined by the department Graduate Admissions Committee and the Graduate School.

**Illinois State University
Department of Special Education
Masters Degree – Admission Credential Supplement
Normal, IL 61790-5910**

I. Personal Data

Name _____ Soc. Sec. # _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Number (home) _____ (work) _____

E-Mail Address _____

*Current information on services, opportunities and important dates is provided to students through electronic mail.
Our listserve is for this purpose only and is not provided to any persons, agencies or commercial organizations.*

May we include you on our listserve? ____ Yes ____ No

II. Previous Education

Highest Degree	_____	_____	_____
	Major	Degree	Graduation Date
	_____		_____
	Institution	GPA	

Number of hours beyond highest degree: _____

III. Include a cover letter describing your career objectives which address the following three points:

- A. What experiences and education led to your interest in pursuing the field of special education?
- B. What qualities, characteristics and skills do you possess that will make you a strong candidate for this program?
- C. What do you hope to learn from pursuing this program and how does that relate to your personal and career goals?

IV. **Attach:** Current resume, copies of current teaching certificates, letter documenting one year of teaching experience, and 3 completed recommendation “Special Education Master’s Recommendation” forms.

V. **Have you ever been convicted of a felony?** ____ Yes ____ No

VI. **I attest to the truth and completeness of this information provided herein.**

Signature _____ Date _____

Please send this form and attachments to Department of Special Education

Illinois State University is an equal opportunity/Affirmative Action institution encouraging diversity

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
ADMISSIONS
Special Education Graduate Program
-Master's Degree-

Admission Procedure

Admission to the master's degree program offered by the Department of Special Education at Illinois State University is competitive. Potential students are required to submit an admission portfolio to the University. The portfolio must include the following sent to the appropriate offices:

Send to: Admissions Office Campus Box 2200 Normal, IL 61790-5910	Send to: Department of Special Education Graduate Coordinator Campus Box 5910 Normal, IL 61790-5910
A. a completed graduate application form	A. a cover letter outlining professional goals
B. official transcripts from all institutions which the student attended	B. a current resume
	C. photocopies of current teaching certificates
	D. a letter documenting a minimum of one year of successful teaching experience
	E. departmental recommendation forms completed by an employer or colleague which addresses disposition for advanced study in the special education profession (2-3)
	F. additional artifacts of the applicant's choosing (optional)

Applicants may be asked to provide further information or to participate in an interview process to determine a match between their previous preparation and current goals and the focus of the master's degree curriculum.

Students seeking admission who do not hold current teaching certificates may submit a letter of petition in lieu of this certificate. This letter must describe those educational and professional experiences which have resulted in the applicant's acquisition of the core knowledge and performance standards for special educators. (Contact The Council for Exceptional Children www.cec.sped.org. or 1920 Association Drive, Reston, Virginia 20101 for information on the most recent professional standards.) The letter of petition should also include the name and contact information for a person who can serve as a reference and is familiar with professional standards for special educators.

Admission portfolios are reviewed and acted upon by the department Graduate Coordinator. In the case of applicants requiring exceptions to the current admission criteria, the Graduate Admission Advisory Committee will review the portfolio and petition materials and reach a final decision regarding eligibility for program admission. The Coordinator will assign a faculty advisor to successful applicants.

Minimum Admission Criteria

- A) Meets all University admission criteria.
- B) Baccalaureate Degree.
- C) Minimum grade point average in the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale OR Graduate Record Examinations scores, with a minimum combined score of 1000 on any two subtests.
- D) Current teaching certificate and one year of successful teaching experience
OR successful petition to the Department of Special Education Graduate Admissions Committee
- E) Prerequisite coursework, which includes survey of special education, educational assessment, and applied behavior analysis OR these will be noted as deficiency courses that must be completed prior to enrolling in SED 400 level courses.
- F) The applicant's stated professional development goals can be expected to be facilitated by completion of this master's degree program.
- G) Evidence of disposition for advanced study in the special education profession

SPECIAL EDUCATION MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION

To the applicant: Please type your name and the program for which you are applying on the lines indicated below, then type the name and address of the person from whom you are requesting a recommendation. Send this form to the person, enclosing a stamped envelope addressed as follows:

Illinois State University
Department of Special Education
Campus Box 5910
Normal, IL 61790-5910

	In re:	
		Name of Applicant
		Social Security Number
		Program applied for

The undersigned hereby acknowledges and agrees that in consideration for the sending of a letter of reference or recommendation by _____ that the undersigned waives any right or privileges to inspect or challenge the content and comments expressed therein and that such observations shall be and remain confidential as between the writer and the person, agency or organization to whom this letter is addressed.

Date	Signature of Student

Dear Colleague:

The above named person is an applicant for admission to the program indicated. We would appreciate your assistance in rating him/her by checking the appropriate box in the rating scales below the heading that most nearly describes the student in comparison with a representative group of students or employees in this field.

Applicant's Disposition for Special Education as a Profession

1. Promotes learning in a positive manner
2. Values diversity
3. Collaborates effectively
4. Professional behavior
5. Commitment to lifelong learning
6. Self-reliance and independence
7. Emotional stability and maturity
8. Oral communication
9. Written communication

Below Average	Average	Good	Unusual	Outstanding	Inadequate Opportunity to Observe
Lowest 40%	Middle 20%	Next Highest 25%	Next Highest 10%	Top 5%	

(as student's major professor, department head, supervisor, etc.)

Thank you for your assistance.

Illinois State University
Department of Special Education
Campus Box 5910
Normal, IL 61790-5910

ADVISEMENT GUIDE FOR USE OF ELECTIVE HOURS

LEARNING AND BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST 2 OPTIONS

CURRICULUM ADAPTATION SPECIALIST

- SED 410 EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES 3 Hr.
- SED 422 TEACHING DIVERSE LEARNERS– 3 Hr.
- SED 445 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND MODIFICATION FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS 3 Hr.
- SED 454 CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION IN SPECIAL AND GENERAL EDUCATION 3 Hr.

BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SPECIALIST

- SED 410 EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES 3 Hr.
- SED 448 APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS: CHANGING BEHAVIOR AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS 3 HR.
- SED 449 BEHAVIORAL CONSULTATION 3 Hr. *(To Be Revised to “Therapeutic Strategies for Special Educators”)* 3 Hr.
- SED 454 CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION IN SPECIAL AND GENERAL EDUCATION 3 Hr.
- SED 452 TEACHING AND SOLVING BEHAVIORAL ISSUES IN AUTISM SPECTRUM AND RELATED BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS

TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST

- SED 377 COMMUNICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES 3 HR.
- SED 379 ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES 3 HR.
- SED 479 ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY: ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION 3 HRS.

TRANSITION SPECIALIST

- SED 451 FACILITATING STUDENT-DIRECTED TRANSITION PLANNING 3 Hr.
- SED 453 INTERAGENCY COMMUNITY AND POST-SECONDARY SYSTEMS 3 HR.
- SED 455 FACILITATING EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES 3 Hr.
- SED 457 FACILITATING SOCIAL, LEISURE, AND INDEPENDENT LIVING OUTCOMES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES 3 Hr.

MULTIPLE DISABILITIES SPECIALIST

- SED 448 APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS: CHANGING BEHAVIOR AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS 3 HR.
- SED 470 RESEARCH PRACTITIONER: MULTIPLE DISABILITIES 3 Hr.
- SED 471 ADDRESSING NEEDS OF LEARNERS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES AND HEALTH IMPAIRMENTS 3 Hr.

OTHER GRADUATE CERTIFICATE OPTIONS

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING AUDITORY/ORAL SPECIALIST

- SED 402 AURAL HABILITATION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF/HARD OF HEARING 3 Hr.
- SED 403 DEVELOPING ORAL COMMUNICATION IN YOUNG CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF/HARD OF HEARING 3 Hr.
- SED 404 COLLABORATION AND CONSULTATION WITH FAMILIES AND PROFESSIONALS SERVING YOUNG CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING 3 Hr.
- SED 405 AUDITORY/ORAL EDUCATIONAL METHODS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING 3 Hr.

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION: POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE

Contact Graduate Coordinator for more information.