



Special Education

The University of Maine offers graduate certificates, master's (M.Ed.) and Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degrees that can be earned **entirely online**.

All M.Ed. degrees in special education at the University of Maine require the completion of at least 36 credit hours. Students can choose one of four concentrations or select an individually designed program in consultation with a faculty adviser. Those seeking an Ed.S. will complete an individually designed program of study. Master's concentrations are:

- **Early Intervention-Early Childhood Special Education:** Leads to state certification as a Teacher of Children with Disabilities (birth to age 5). This program is designed to prepare students in the fundamentals of professional practice in early intervention for inclusive environments, provide students with advanced content in a variety of research areas (e.g., early childhood, early childhood special education, family relationships, collaborative consultation), and support students in practicum experiences with high-needs children and their families. To ensure program success, potential students should currently be working or volunteering with young children, birth to age 5 and their families.
- **High incidence:** Leads to state certification as a Teacher of Students with Disabilities (K-8 or 7-12). The program prepares master's-level special educators to serve students in the areas of reading, math, writing and challenging behavior. All courses require fieldwork; students must be working or volunteering in K-12 schools.
- **Low incidence:** Leads to state certification as an Educational Specialist for Students with Severe Disabilities. This program prepares master's-level special educators to serve students with autism spectrum disorder, significant intellectual disabilities and multiple disabilities. All courses require fieldwork; students must be working or volunteering in K-12 schools.
- **Dual certification:** Dual certification leads to state certification for both Teacher of Students with Disabilities (K-8 or 7-12) and Educational Specialist for Students with Severe Disabilities. The program is designed for candidates who have an interest in flexible teaching environments while supporting students with disabilities in various educational settings. All courses require fieldwork, so students must be working or volunteering in K-12 schools.

For more information:

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Graduate certificates

Autism Spectrum Disorders: This 4-course sequence (12 credits) is designed to prepare experienced educators, administrators and related service providers to assume a leadership role in the development and implementation of educational programs for students with autism in school settings. Students who complete this certificate program will gain the critical knowledge and practical skills necessary to address the needs of children and students across the autism spectrum.

High Leverage Practices to Promote Inclusion: This certificate addresses the critical and growing need for educators to have appropriate support for serving all students in their classrooms, including students with disabilities, at-risk students and typical learners. Through the 5-course sequence (15 credits), students learn the practical tools to implement instructional changes that promote diversity and foster inclusion in the classroom and broader school culture.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support: RTI for Behavior: Response to Intervention (RTI) is a model that focuses on research-based methods of prevention and intervention combined with data-based decision making to improve student behavioral and academic outcomes. This 3-course certificate (9 credits) prepares school personnel to lead the development, implementation, evaluation and sustainability of a three-tiered continuum of behavioral support and intervention in school settings.

NEW! Special Education Leadership: Assistant Special Education Director: Assistant special education directors assist directors in decision-making and providing students with disabilities the proper attention and support to help them achieve in the classroom and beyond. This 4-course (12 credits) sequence can lead to Maine certification as an Assistant Administrator of Special Education.

University of Maine Special Education Online Course Offerings (all courses online except where noted)

Spring 2022

- SED 302: Adapting Instruction for Students with Disabilities
- SED 513: Individualized Practicum
- SED 514: Administration & Public Policy for Early Childhood
- SED 517: Serving Infants and Toddlers in Natural Settings (**taken with 1 credit SED 513: Individualized Practicum (EI/ECSE)**)
- SED 520: Law and Policy Affecting Individuals with Disabilities
- SED 528: Educational Methods for Students with Autism
- SED 529: Language Development and Literacy for Diverse Young Learners
- SED 532: Behavior Management and Intervention
- SED 556: Assessment in Special Education: Students with ASD and Severe Disabilities
- SED 546: Writing Interventions for Students with Disabilities
- SED 544: Math Methods in Special Education
- SED 553: Assessment in Special Education I
- SED 582: Response to Intervention for Behavior: Targeted Intervention
- SED 587: Collaborations and Transitions for Special Educators-**2 sections!**
- SED 598: Strategies for Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Students with Disabilities
- SED 598: Partnering with families (**taken with 1 credit SED 513: Individualized Practicum (EI/ECSE)**)
- SED 605: Seminar in Special Education: Critical Issues
- SED 610: Internship in Special Education Teaching
- SED 625: MACM Internship