

SPECIAL EDUCATION – ONLINE DEGREE-COMPLETION PROGRAM



Millersville University's online PreK-12 certification Special Education program prepares students to meet the academic, social-emotional and behavioral needs of students with disabilities.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Millersville University's PreK-12 Special Education is taught by knowledgeable faculty with extensive expertise in a wide range of exceptionalities and ages. Furthermore, this program benefits from the contribution of colleagues in diverse fields such as literacy, EL and educational psychology.

PreK-12 schools nationwide experience an ongoing need for qualified special educators. Students enrolled in Millersville University's PreK-12 Special Education program will acquire the skills to fulfill and thoroughly address the needs of students with disabilities in multiple settings.

This program also offers unique educational experiences beyond the classroom, including internships with local organizations and extensive and diverse field study opportunities.

Graduates receive their Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.E.) and are eligible for Pennsylvania teaching certification in Special Education, grades PreK-12.

**Students outside of Pennsylvania should check with their state's department of education on licensure requirements before entering this program.*

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

The PreK-12 Special Education program will equip you with knowledge and skills to support students with a range of needs, including limited to significant, in grades PreK-12. Special Education courses focus on pedagogy for students with disabilities from early intervention to transition from high school. Your capstone experience will be participating in student teaching at the elementary and secondary levels to direct your career aspirations after graduation.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- 100% online courses.
- Program start dates in spring and fall.
- Flexibility to work while earning a degree.
- Courses offered year-round to allow you to complete your degree faster.
- Major courses completed in 7.5 weeks.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Early interventionist
- Special education advocate
- Special education consultant
- Early childhood special education teacher
- Secondary special education teacher



COURSE FIELD EXPERIENCE EXPECTATIONS

Students in the online program will complete field work. Students are required to be working at least eight hours per week in an education setting before beginning the online program to use their workplace as a placement setting.

FOUNDATIONS BLOCK

Candidates complete a case study assignment based on field observations. Candidates make connections between content being taught in the University course and observations made in the classroom. Candidates use experience working with students to write a reflective paper. Candidates complete a teacher interview, classroom observation checklist, reading inventory/interview with a student, and a lesson plan (taught) with feedback from a certified teacher. Candidates observe a classroom and school setting to understand and evaluate use of the medical model of special education.

REQUIRED EDUCATION COURSES

Candidates will assess and deliver one-on-one tutoring/intervention. Students will use research to create an action research plan.

PROFESSIONAL BLOCK I

Candidates write a reflective paper based on their experience with individuals with significant support needs. Candidates will be required to write a two-page reflection on observations as they relate to text and class discussions. Candidate will collaborate with the cooperating teacher to select a student and perform a functional behavior assessment.

PROFESSIONAL BLOCK II

Candidates in Professional Block II must complete a portfolio based on classroom observations as well as a three-lesson mini-unit using the content learned from the block courses.

PROFESSIONAL BLOCK III – Student Teaching

During Professional Block III Student Teaching, candidates will begin to take responsibility for teaching the classroom lessons and provide a majority of the daily instruction.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Program Prerequisites:

Completion of at least 30 transferrable credits, including the below required prerequisite courses, is required before beginning.

- SPED 101 Orientation to Special Ed
- MATH 104 Fundamentals of Math 1
- MATH 105 Fundamentals of Math 2

Program Required Courses:

- EDFN 211 Foundations of Modern Education
- EDFN 241 Psychological Foundations of Teaching
- EDFN 336 Assistive Technology and Online Learning
- EDUC 325 Teaching of Literacy: Processes, Skills and Strategies
- EDUC 424 Diagnostic Reading Disability
- EDUC 487 Teaching English Learners
- EDSP 461 Elementary Student Teaching
- EDSP 462 Secondary Student Teaching
- ECPK 225 Foundations of Reading
- SPED 237 Applied Foundations of Contemporary Special Education
- SPED 311 Assessment for Designing and Implementing Instruction
- SPED 321 Serving Individuals in Inclusive Settings
- SPED 331 Positive Learning Environments for all Students
- SPED 341 Early Intervention to Kindergarten
- SPED 351 Managing Challenging Behaviors
- SPED 361 Formal Assessment for Students With Disabilities
- SPED 441 Support for Specialized Curriculum
- SPED 442 Effective Instruction for Students With Disabilities
- SPED 443 Reflective Practices
- SPED 444 Transition Planning and Secondary Programming for Individuals With Disabilities
- SPED 445 Individualized Educational Planning
- SPED 463 EBP for Mathematics, Literacy and Content Areas for Exceptional Learners

After applying, a transfer evaluation will be conducted to identify how many general education credits you will need to take to fulfill degree requirements.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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