

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Masters in Special Education program and the Licensure Certificate program in Teaching Students with Disabilities who Access the Adapted Curriculum

Due to overlaps in the requirements of the two programs, students may complete programs concurrently.

	<i>Masters in Special Education Program (30 credits minimum)</i>	<i>Licensure Certificate Program in Teaching Students with Disabilities who Access the Adapted Curriculum*</i>
Coursework applies to both MEd and licensure program	EDSE 501 Intro to Spec Educ (3 cr.)	EDSE 501 Intro to Spec Educ (3 cr.)
	Reading 3 cr. (EDSE 557 or 503 or 625 or 636)	EDSE 557: Foundations Language & Literacy for Diverse Learners (3 cr.)
	Collaboration 3 cr. (EDSE 663 or 662 or 664 or 637)	EDSE 663 Collaborative Teamwork to Support Students with Significant Disabilities (3 cr.)
Licensure certificate courses can apply as electives in the MEd program	15 cr. electives which can be any Special Education courses (EDSE or EDAT):	EDSE 531: Transition and Community-Based Instruction (3 cr.)
		EDSE 532: Positive Behavior Supports (3 cr.)
		EDSE 533: Assessment and Program Planning for Adapted Curriculum (3 cr.)
		EDSE 534: Communication and SD (3 cr.)
		EDSE 547: Characteristics of Students Severe Disability (3 cr.)
		EDSE 661: Curriculum and Methods: SD (3 cr.)
		EDSE 669: Individualized Supports and Specialized Care of Students with Disab. (3 cr.)
		EDSE 784 Internship Spec Educ – Adapted Curriculum – Elementary – (3cr.)
		EDSE 784 Internship Spec Educ – Adapted Curriculum – Secondary – (3 cr.)
Required for MEd only	EDSE 517 Comp Applic Spec Pop (3 cr.)	
	EDSE 590 Spec Educ Research (3 cr.)	
Credits	Total credits for MEd: 30	Total credits for licensure certificate: 36
	<i>Total credits if completing both MEd and licensure certificate: 42</i>	

*Students must demonstrate that they have covered the content in all courses in the program. However, students who have completed coursework in a graduate or undergraduate program may waive comparable courses in their Mason licensure certificate program down to a minimum of 15 credits.

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Internship (<http://cehd.gmu.edu/teacher/intpract/>):

EDSE 784 Internship: Two internship experiences are required for licensure certificate programs: one at the elementary level and one at the secondary level. Internship options should be discussed with an advisor upon admission to the program.

Some students may be eligible to waive one internship experience. For more information on the requirements for the waiver and the documentation that a student must submit in order to request the waiver consult with an advisor.

Non-course Requirements (<http://cehd.gmu.edu/teacher/test/>):

VCLA and CPR/AED/First Aid training are required prior to applying for internship.

- VCLA (<http://www.va.nesinc.com/>) – score of 470+
- CPR/AED/First Aid training (<https://cehd.gmu.edu/teacher/emergency-first-aid>)

Tuition Assistance and Grant Funding:

Adapted Curriculum Consortium (<https://education.gmu.edu/special-education/adapted-curriculum-consortium/>): The Virginia Consortium for Teacher Preparation in Preparation in Special Education Adapted Curriculum: Supporting Students with Severe Disabilities and Autism is comprised of five state approved teacher preparation programs for endorsement in teaching students with disabilities who access an adapted curriculum. The consortium's primary goal is to prepare teachers across the state to be highly skilled at working with learners with severe disabilities. The consortium is supported by a grant from the Virginia Department of Education. Every semester, a limited number of tuition stipends are awarded to qualified applicants.

Virginia Educator Discount (<https://cehd.gmu.edu/admissions/funding-sources-discounts/educator-tuition-discount>): A 15% discount off the university's approved tuition rate is available for qualifying in-state graduate students who are educators in Virginia.

LIFE Graduate Assistantships (<http://masonlife.gmu.edu/contact/>): The Learning Into Future Environments (LIFE) Program is an innovative post-secondary program at Mason for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who desire a university experience in a supportive academic environment. Graduate and undergraduate students with a major in special education have an opportunity to work as instructors in the LIFE program which provides them with field experience in a supportive, supervised setting.

Graduate Research Assistantships (<https://cehd.gmu.edu/resources/student/ga-application>): Part time positions are available for students interested in providing research support to faculty.

George Mason University College of Education and Human Development is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). All licensure programs are approved by the Virginia Department of Education. George Mason University will verify completion of the requirements of a Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) state-approved preparation program at the graduate or undergraduate level. Such verification does not guarantee the issuance of Virginia Collegiate Professional, Postgraduate Professional, or Pupil Personnel license from the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is solely the student's responsibility to comply with all requirements for licensure by the Commonwealth. Under Virginia law a social security number is required for licensure.

If you have questions or would like further information, please visit our website at
<https://education.gmu.edu/special-education/> ***or call 703-993-3670***