



School of Graduate Studies and Research

MEd in Special Education

There are two options available for students wishing to pursue Master of Education Degrees in Special Education.

OPTION 1 Individuals who hold undergraduate teaching certification from an accredited institution may enroll in the M.Ed. in Special Education with certification for either the P-8 or 7-12 levels. The courses are designed to meet all Pennsylvania Department of Education Special Education guidelines and Council for Exception Children standards.

OPTION 2 The Master of Education degree program for students who are currently certified in Special Education is designed to develop and improve knowledge of and performance in core professional competencies related to the field of special education. Additionally, students develop expertise in a chosen area of specialization (autism or behavior management). Students who choose the M.Ed. with a specialization in autism also earn the PDE Autism Spectrum Disorders Certificate.

Admission Requirements and Procedures: Visit the [Graduate School webpage](#) and click the “Apply” link on the left side of the screen. Begin by creating an account on CollegeNET by clicking the “account” link on the Apply page. CollegeNET is a self-managed application system. It will allow you to submit admission materials, check the status of your application, and view your decision letter using this account. If you have issues with your CollegeNET account, consult the CollegeNET help desk by submitting a Help Request Form or email help@collegenet.com.

Individuals seeking admission as degree students in this program must comply with the general admission requirements for graduate students at Edinboro University and with the following specific admission requirements for this program:

1. Complete the online application.
2. Pay an application fee of \$30.
3. Provide an official transcript verifying an earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
4. Undergraduate GPA of a 2.80 is required for admission. Students with a GPA below 2.80, scores from the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE) are required.
5. Copy of valid teacher certification (for option 2).

Curriculum

OPTION 1, P-8 (36 cr. hrs.)

M. Ed. Special Education Seeking Certification

Required Courses

APSY 788 Research in Education I
APSY 789 Research in Education II
SPED 695 Graduate Field Experience in Special Education*
SPED 710 Seminar in Exceptionalities
SPED 715 Creating Inclusive Classrooms
SPED 720 Advanced Assessment
SPED 725 Seminar in Mild to Moderate Disabilities
SPED 735 Explicit Instructional Strategies in Special Education
SPED 740 Issues Effecting Individuals with Severe Disabilities
SPED 745 Language and Literacy-based Instruction in Special Education
SPED 750 Behavior Disorders and Positive Behavior Supports
SPED 755 Collaboration, Partnerships, and IEP Development

OPTION 1, 7-12 (36 cr. hrs.)

M. Ed. Special Education Seeking Certification

Required Courses

APSY 788 – Research in Education I

APSY 789 – Research in Education II
SPED 610 – Secondary Transition
SPED 628 – Classroom and School-wide Behavior Management Strategies for Inclusive Settings
SPED 695 – Graduate Field Experience in Special Education*
SPED 710 – Seminar in Exceptionalities
SPED 712 – Content Enhancement Literacy Skills to Promote Secondary Inclusion
SPED 714 – Mathematics and Content Area Study Skills to Promote Secondary Inclusion†
SPED 720 – Advanced Assessment†
SPED 725 – Seminar in Mild to Moderate Disabilities
SPED 740 – Issues Effecting Individuals with Severe Disabilities
SPED 755 – Collaboration, Partnerships, and IEP Development

OPTION 2 (30 cr. hrs.)

M. Ed. in Special Education (currently certified in Special Education)

18 Credit Core:

APSY 788 – Research in Education I
APSY 789 – Research in Education II
SPED 610 Secondary Transition
SPED 628 Classroom and School-wide Behavior Management Strategies for Inclusive Settings
SPED 760 Early Intervention and Working with Families
SPED 765 Response to Intervention, Progress Monitoring and Data Management

12 Credit Specializations (choose one area to specialize)

Autism (Concentration Code 08680)

CSD 708 Autism Spectrum Disorders and Augmentative and Alternative Communication SPED
770 Autism Spectrum Disorders
SPED 785 Applied Behavior Analysis
SPED 795 Autism Spectrum Disorders Internship*

Behavior Management (Concentration Code 08681)

(SPED 628, SPED 765, and APSY 789 taken in core)
APSY 796 Crisis Management and Violence Prevention in Schools
SPED 750 Behavior Disorders and Positive Behavior Supports
SPED 785 Applied Behavior Analysis
SPED 695 Graduate Field Experience in Special Education

*All internship courses, whether in an online or campus-based program, will be charged at the on-campus rate.

Degree Requirements:

Students in these programs must comply with the course requirements for the master of education degree. In addition, students must satisfactorily complete a non-credit master's project using Applied Behavior. This project is typically developed and completed during the two research courses.

Note: Students who enter the Special Education M.Ed. program seeking teacher certification in Special Education must also meet the requirements for Pennsylvania certification including the Special Education PECT exams, P-8 or 7-12.

Candidates seeking teacher certification from a state other than Pennsylvania should follow the procedures required by that specific state. Only international students who hold immigration status and have submitted a form of intent to become a citizen are eligible to apply for PDE teacher certification.

It is the student's responsibility to investigate certification requirements from states other than Pennsylvania.

For More Information: If you have questions about the application process, please contact Edinboro University's School of Graduate Studies at gradstudies@edinboro.edu or at (814)732-2856 or toll-free (888) 845-2890. For questions specific to the MEd in Special Education, please contact Dr. Meghan Ferraro at (814) 732-2410 (ferrarom@edinboro.edu).

Office for Students with Disabilities: For information or assistance regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by persons with a disability, contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), at (814) 732-2462. For additional information, visit the [OSD web page](#).

Graduate Assistantships: [Graduate Assistantships](#) are available for campus based students only. They are awarded on a competitive basis. Admission applications must be completed by February 15th to be considered for an assistantship. Assistantships provide a partial waiver of tuition and a stipend, as well as an opportunity to gain experience in research and professional activities. Additional information about assistantships is available through the School of Graduate Studies and Research, (814) 732-2856 or toll-free (888) 845-2890.

Financial Aid Considerations: An academic year consists of fall, spring, and summer. Graduate students taking graduate level courses may receive up to \$20,500 in the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program. Most students will use their Stafford loans during the 9 month period (fall and spring). Students will want to be mindful of their financial aid to allow for funding for 12 months if planning on enrolling during the summer term. Students will have an option to apply for Graduate Plus loan or private loans if other funding has been exhausted. For more specific information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at (888) 611-2680 or finaid@edinboro.edu.

Employer Reimbursement: Non-traditional students who are working and taking classes on a part-time basis may have employer-paid education benefits. The purpose of the [employer tuition reimbursement agreement](#) is to allow employees who receive reimbursement to defer payment of their tuition and fees until after grades are available at the end of the semester. Edinboro University accepts employer benefit plans through arrangements with the Bursar's Office by completing the enclosed [employer tuition reimbursement agreement](#).

Veterans' Education Benefits: Information and printable forms regarding **Veterans' Education Benefits** and the **Montgomery GI Bill** are available at the Department of Veterans Affairs website, <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>. After the Department of Veterans Affairs approves a student's eligibility, and after the school certifies the student's enrollment, benefits are paid directly to the student after the end of each month.

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity education institution and employer and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, and disability in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Section 504, and the ADA. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact the Office of Human Resources and Faculty Relations, (814) 732-2703 or the Office of Social Equity (814) 732-2167, Reeder Hall, 219 Meadville Street, Edinboro, PA 16444.