

# SPECIAL EDUCATION (M.ED.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/education/program/med/special-education>

## Description

The special education program prepares highly qualified educators who possess the knowledge, disposition, and skills necessary to take the lead in establishing effective teaching and learning environments for a diverse population of learners. These educators are capable of collaborating with other classroom teachers as team leaders or consultants, and they also utilize these skills collaborating with parents and guardians, school communities, and with the larger profession. The program can meet current educator licensure requirements in the state of New Hampshire in General Special Education.

## Admission Criteria

In determining admission of students to teacher education graduate programs, several criteria are used:

1. Undergraduate record and GPA
2. Recommendations
3. Basic Academic Skills Assessment
4. Clearance on a Criminal History Records Check
5. Additional required application materials can be found at the [Graduate School website](#) under programs.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

#### Prerequisites for General Special Education Certification

1. All candidates are required to complete a course in mathematics teaching methods and a course in reading teaching methods. At UNH, the course that meets the reading teaching methods requirement is EDUC 806. Courses that meet the mathematics teaching requirement are MATH 601 and/or MATH 703. Equivalent courses taken at another college or university may be substituted.
2. All students are required to complete EDUC 650 or EDUC 850 and EDUC 656 or EDUC 856. Equivalent courses taken at another college or university may be substituted.
3. Successful completion of EDUC 500, EDUC 935A, EDUC 694, or related, recent prior classroom experience.
4. Credits for prerequisite courses will not count toward those needed for the M.Ed. degree.

### Special Education (M.Ed.) Requirements

The M.Ed. degree requires a minimum of **36** hours of graduate-level credits. The exact number of credit hours will depend on the student's background, competencies, and professional goals, and will be determined by the advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
EDUC 851A or EDUC 851B	Inclusive Elementary Education: Literacies and Learning for Diverse Learners	4
	Methods of Inclusive Secondary Education: Literacies, Learning, and Transitions	
EDUC 839	Assessment and Individualized Educational Planning in Special and Inclusive Education	4

EDUC 840	Methods for Supporting Students in Special Education Using Intensive Interventions	4
EDUC 882 or EDUC 884	Introduction to Research Methods Educators as Researchers	4
EDUC 951	Laws and Regulations in Special and Inclusive Education	4
EDUC 956	Developing Positive Behavior Supports to Ensure Success for All Learners	4
<b>Internship <sup>1</sup></b>		
EDUC 900C	Internship and Seminar in Special Education	6
EDUC 901C	Internship and Seminar in Special Education	6
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> If a student is not interning, 12 credits of elective courses may be substituted.

### Grading Policy

Graduate credit is granted only for coursework completed with a grade of **B-** or higher. Any grade below B- will not count for graduate credit and will count toward the accumulation of nine (9) failing credits which may require the student to withdraw from the program.

## Accelerated Master's

This graduate program is approved to be taken on an accelerated basis in articulation with certain undergraduate degree programs.

General Accelerated Master's policy, note that some programs have additional requirements (e.g. higher grade expectations) compared to the policy.

Please see the [Graduate School website](#) and contact the department directly for more information.

## Student Learning Outcomes

The Special Education program at the University of New Hampshire seeks to prepare highly qualified educators who possess the knowledge, dispositions, and skills necessary to establish effective and inclusive teaching and learning environments. We prepare educators who provide exceptional services and support to people identified with disabilities and their families. In this program, students gain the skills necessary to assess, plan, and monitor the educational progress of k-12 learners identified with disabilities.

### Program Learning Outcomes

- Graduates will be knowledgeable in the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to all students.
- Graduates will be committed to students and their learning.
- Graduates will be responsible for managing and monitoring student learning.
- Graduates will be effective organizers of the learning environment.
- Our graduates will be thoughtful and reflective practitioners who learn from experience.
- Our graduates will be committed to collaboration which facilitates student growth and learning.
- Our graduates will be informed decision-makers and agents of change.
- Our graduates will be active members of learning and professional communities.

## Disclosures

### Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures

The University of New Hampshire offers a number of academic programs designed to lead to professional licensure or certification in New Hampshire. However, completing a UNH degree/program does not guarantee professional licensure or certification. Eligibility may also depend on factors like years of work experience, professional examinations, passing a background check, and other criteria.

UNH does not guarantee that its professional licensure programs will satisfy the criteria of professional licensure boards in other states. Some states maintain different requirements for professional licensure or certification and requirements can change frequently. Federal regulations require the University to make public disclosure of certain information regarding professional licensure or certification programs, regardless of the modality the program is offered (i.e., in-person or online). The University provides guidance below but recommends students contact their state/territory licensing or certification board to ensure a program meets specific state/territory requirements.

Visit the Office of the Registrar's [website](#) for information about whether this program meets professional licensure requirements in your state.