BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION IN

SPECIAL EDUCATION



YOU ARE THE KEY TO A SAFE AND EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Special education is a rewarding career. Eastern's special education program carries an excellent state and national reputation. Nationwide, professionals prepared in special education are in high demand.

SPECIAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Everything you'll learn in the classroom is integrated into what you'll experience in professional setting and activities. Eastern's special education programs are designed to provide a dynamic core of information. This core functions as a base of specialization. Individuals completing one of the courses of study in this department provide professional expertise and leadership in the development and implementation of educational programs.

- + REAL LIFE APPLICATION
- + INTEGRATED LEARNING
- + STELLAR EDUCATION
- + TEACHING EXCELLENCE
- + REWARDING CAREER

INTEGRATED LEARNING & FIELD EXPERIENCE

Everything you'll learn in the classroom is integrated into what you'll experience in professional setting and activities.

While part of our program, you'll be provided opportunities for field experiences in school and agency settings. You'll work with individuals across the range of disabilities and from age 5 to adulthood.

You don't go through these field experiences alone, either. They're supervised on-site by faculty members acting as a "coach" and evaluator. Field experiences are part of your coursework, with a minimum of 400 hours needed prior to student teaching.

DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

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SERVICE & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Service is a major part of what we do. Our students have the opportunity to work with the Special Olympics, Polar Plunge, bingo nights, food drives, clothing drives, equestrian programs, "Best Buddies" program and many more great organizations.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships play a vital role in making higher education more affordable and accessible to students and their families.

In addition to the extensive scholarship and award opportunities available to all Eastern students, the State of Illinois has a State Special Education Teacher Scholarship and a Minority Teacher Scholarship. There is also an opportunity at the Federal level for the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant.

CERTIFICATIONS

Upon graduation, those completing the program seek Illinois teacher certification, K-12 in special education, learning behavior specialist (LBS) I. Any student desiring to earn the elementary certificate (K-9 Illinois) or early childhood education in addition to the standard special certificate (K-12 Illinois) may do so by supplementing the standard special option with the aid of an academic advisor in the Department of Special Education.

Any student desiring to work with preschool-age children with disabilities can explore this option at EIU as well. Interested students can work with preschool children can work with an advisor for the early childhood special education entitlement program. A university honors program is available for undergraduates.

BEYOND THE DEGREE

Special Education at EIU prepares graduates for a variety of professional roles:

- Early Childhood Special Educator for ages 3-5
- Hospital Education Specialist
- Parent Trainer
- Special Education Pre-k to 21
- · Home-based Special Educator
- Resource Teacher-Special Education
- · Agency Worker
- Camp Counselor for Children with Disabilities
- · Case Manager
- Correctional Institute Teacher

In Illinois and across the nation, we have a shortage of special education teachers. Candidates who are geographically flexible generally have no difficulty finding employment, and our most recent alumni survey shows 98 percent of graduates have secured full-time positions.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

The Department of Special Education faculty teach and model researchbased best practice. Faculty are involved in local, state, and national organizations, placing the department in the forefront of the Special Education professional field.

ACCREDITATION

The university is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The special education programs are approved by the Council for Exceptional Children and the Illinois State Board of Education.

