



Master of Science: Special Education

A Full-time, Two-Year Professional Degree Program (42 credit hours)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Science in Education: Special Education program prepares pre-service students, alternatively licensed or already certified teachers to work with students with disabilities who access the general curriculum in grades K-12. The program is designed to prepare students to be critical, reflective thinkers; lifelong learners; and ethical, compassionate professionals committed to meeting the educational needs of an increasingly diverse school population and to continually strive to add to the knowledge base of the profession of teaching. This program includes the use of the newest instructional technologies, experiential learning, and exposure to information related to classroom management, individual education planning, and instructional delivery for students with disabilities in the K-12 school population.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- Bachelor's degree with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate Application with a \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Bachelor's Degree (minimum 3.0 GPA)
- Unofficial transcripts for initial admission from all institutions of higher education previously attended.
- Three letters of recommendation
- Essay addressing your background and educational goals (2-3 pages)
- Praxis Academic Core Tests (and appropriate substitutes) are no longer required as entrance exams for graduate teacher education programs at Shenandoah University. Instead, students will complete the VCLA and Praxis 2 exams during the course of the program. If you have already taken the VCLA or would like to take it prior to applying, you are encouraged to submit your scores with your application.
- Language Proficiency Requirement must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details: <https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>

ABOUT THE DIVISION OF EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP

Shenandoah University's Division of Education & Leadership (DOEL) prepares practitioner-leaders by offering programs of study that conform to the following principles: practicing in a spirit of collaboration; thoughtful examination of the foundations, current contexts, and future possibilities of the fields of study; encouraging proactive, problem-centered philosophies of educational and professional practice; producing graduates who will be knowledge-driven, competent decision-makers whose thinking is informed by reflective practice; and preparing caring, capable, and reflective teachers, administrators, human services, and public sector practitioners.

As part of efforts to make education more accessible for educators and leaders who serve our communities, all DOEL graduate programs are offered at a [reduced tuition rate](#).

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

Start Term

Spring (January) 2024
Summer (May) 2024
Fall (August) 2024

Admission Deadline

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis

Format/Location

On-campus in Winchester

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to www.su.edu/sehdapp

Foreign Transcripts

International transcript evaluation by an accredited agency is an admission requirement. Approved services are listed at www.naces.org and <http://aice-eval.org/>.

Transfer Credits

Only grades of "A" or "B" are transferable

A maximum of nine graduate hours may be approved by the Director

Contact Us

Dr. Melissa Hartman
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Office of Graduate Admissions
SUGradAdmissions@su.edu
call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-401-5709

Office of Financial Aid
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>
finaid@su.edu | call: 540-665-4538

CAMPUS LOCATIONS



Winchester Main Campus
1460 University Drive
Winchester, VA 22601



James L. Bowman Building
20 South Cameron Street
Winchester, Virginia 22601

CURRICULUM

The degree requirement is 33-42 semester hours with a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

Course	Title	Credits
Foundations*		
PSYP 510	Human Growth & Learning	3
EDU 510	The Teaching Profession	3
RDG 523	Foundations of Literacy	3
Methods		
SED 537	Instructional Strategies in Mathematics for Students with Disabilities	3
SED 565	Foundations/Legal/Medical Aspects of SPED	3
SED 571	Characteristics of Students with Disabilities	3
SED 533	Language Acquisition & Reading Methods	3
SED 569	Collaborative & Consultative Strategies	3
SED 575	Transitions for Students with Disabilities	3
SED 567	SPED Instruction, Behavior Management and Assessment	3
SED 573	Curriculum, Instruction, & service Delivery	3
EDU 647	Projects in Curriculum & Instruction	3
Passing scores on Praxis II, VCLA and RVE		
Supervised Teaching Experience		
EDU 661	Internship in Student Teaching K-12	6
<i>OR if provisionally licensed in special education, complete:</i>		
EDU 613	Management & Mentorship I (Fall Only)	3
EDU 614	Management & Mentorship II (Spring Only)	3
Program Total	Total	42

**If candidates have already completed the initial education foundations courses (or their equivalent), they only need to take the 24 credits of SED coursework, 6 credits supervised teaching experiences, and 3 credits of EDU 647 in order to complete the Master's degree.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much does the program cost?

Tuition through the Division of Education and Leadership is offered at the discounted rate of \$475 per credit hour.

Can I complete this program while working full time?

Yes, all of our programs in the Division of Education & Leadership can be completed on a part-time basis, and all classes are offered in the evenings to accommodate working professionals. Most graduate students enrolled in DOEL programs also work full time.