

# Professional Studies Certificate: Special Education, Add-on Endorsements K-6, 6-8, 6-12



**SHENANDOAH**<sup>®</sup>  
U N I V E R S I T Y  
Division of Education & Leadership

A Part-time, One-Year Certificate Program (15 credit hours)

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Professional Studies Certificates in Special Education K-6, 6-8, or 6-12 Add-on Endorsements serve licensed teachers who desire to add Virginia Special Education Endorsement at their licensure level. The PSCs in SPED K-6, 6-8, and 6-12 include the use of the newest instructional techniques experiential learning and exposure to information related to classroom management, and instructional strategies for deliver to K-6, 6-8, or 6-12 grade populations. Teachers completing this program will meet the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) requirements for grade-banded, add-on endorsement in one of the three: Special Education Elementary K-6, Middle 6-8, or Secondary 6-12 instruction.

To complete an add-on endorsement in Special Education K-6, 6-8, or 6-12, teachers must earn 15 credits as noted in the lists below. Fifty hours of field experiences are embedded in the courses for each endorsement. The certificate requirement is 15 semester hours with a grade point average of 3.0 or better.

## 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
- Copy of Teacher's License
- Essay addressing your background and educational goals (2-3 pages)
- 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)  
Summer (May)  
Fall (August)

### Admission Deadline

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis

### Format/Location

Online synchronous

### How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to [www.su.edu/sehdapp](http://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](http://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](mailto:SUGradAdmissions@su.edu)  
call: 540-665-4581 | text: 540-546-6029

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



**Dr. Melissa Hartman, Special Education  
Program Director**

## CURRICULUM

### Special Education K-6, Add-on Endorsement

Course	Title	Credits
SED 565	Foundations/Legal/Medical Aspects of Special Education	3
SED 533	Language Acquisition & Reading Methods	3
SED 537	Instructional Strategies in Mathematics for Students with Disabilities	3
SED 567	Special Education Instruction, Behavior Management, and Assessment	3
SED 573	Curriculum, Instruction, & Service Delivery for Students with Disabilities	3

### Special Education 6-8, Add-on Endorsement

Course	Title	Credits
SED 565	Foundations/Legal/Medical Aspects of Special Education	3
SED 533	Language Acquisition & Reading Methods	3
SED 537	Instructional Strategies in Mathematics for Students with Disabilities	3
SED 575	Transitions for Students with Disabilities	3
SED 573	Curriculum, Instruction, & Service Delivery for Students with Disabilities	3

### Special Education 6-12, Add-on Endorsement

Course	Title	Credits
SED 565	Foundations/Legal/Medical Aspects of Special Education	3
SED 533	Language Acquisition & Reading Methods	3
SED 537	Instructional Strategies in Mathematics for Students with Disabilities	3
SED 575	Transitions for Students with Disabilities	3
SED 573	Curriculum, Instruction, & Service Delivery for Students with Disabilities	3

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How much does the program cost?

Tuition through the Division of Education and Leadership is offered at the discounted rate of \$490 per credit hour for the [2025-2026 Academic Year](#).

### 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.

### Are courses in person or online?

Classes are online synchronous with the possibility of some asynchronous weeks. They are one day a week for 2.5 hours. Synchronous classes are interactive and engaging and include group and individual work. The formats include lectures, interactive discussions, videos, and problem-solving activities. Some classes include practicum hours that students may apply in their current teaching positions. Students not currently teaching will be placed for practicum hours.