



Childhood Special Education (Dual Certification) Master of Science in Education

For applicants who do not possess New York State certification

Graduate programs in special education are designed to develop competent, caring, and qualified special educators to teach diverse learners who present with disabilities in both inclusive and specialized urban settings. The programs' philosophical, conceptual, and instructional underpinnings derive from values and standards established by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and the New York State Learning Standards, as well as the Lehman Urban Transformative Education (LUTE) framework, which recognizes difference and diversity as foundations for learning and teaching. The program works collaboratively with school personnel, parents, family and community members, and local community organizations to create humanistic, nurturing environments that are responsive to the needs of children in urban settings.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Official transcripts from **all** post-secondary institutions attended
 - Have attained a bachelor's degree or its foreign equivalent from an accredited college or university
 - Have attained a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0
- An Initial or Professional New York State Certificate in teaching at the Childhood developmental level
- A Special Education concentration at the same developmental level as their earned Initial/Professional NYS Teaching Certificate
- 3 essay questions (one page per question) that includes references/citations to something you have read in the newspapers/literature/journals.
- A completed Graduate Admissions Application
- Two letters of recommendation
- Participation in an interview

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- Complete a minimum of 48 graduate credits of study in an approved Special Education concentration plus 12 credits (4 courses) in methods courses at the childhood level
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 throughout the 48-credit concentration
- Candidates are required to pass edTPA (Teacher Performance Assessments), Educating All Students Test, and Revised Content Specialty Test. Visit the New York State Teacher Certification Examinations website for most updated information about the new tests at http://www.nystce.nesinc.com/NY_annProgramUpdate.asp

| Course Requirements (36 credits) | | Credits |
|---|---|----------------|
| EDS 701 | Understanding Individuals with Disabilities | 3 |
| EDS 707 | The Childhood Student with Disabilities | 3 |
| EDS 743 | Behavioral Assessment, Management, and Change | 3 |
| EDS 708 | Practicum in Behavioral Assessment and Management of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Childhood Students with Disabilities | 3 |
| EDS 709 | Curriculum and Instructional Practices for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Childhood Students | 3 |
| EDS 710 | Practicum in Curriculum and Instructional Practices for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Childhood | 3 |
| EDS 741 | Pyscho-educational Evaluation of Children with Learning Problems | 3 |
| EDS 711 | Practicum in Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Childhood Students with Disabilities | 3 |
| EDS 715 | Research in Special Education | 3 |
| EDS 718 | Culminating Master's Project | 3 |
| EDS 719 | Student Teaching of Diverse Learners with Disabilities in Inclusive and Specialized Settings | 3 |
| EDS 720 | Student Teaching Seminar | 3 |

Additional requirements:

- 1) 12 credits in methods of general education – 3 credits in each of literacy, science, mathematics, and social studies – at Childhood level. Courses should be taken in consultation with your advisor.

Program Requirements:

- 1) An earned GPA of 3.0 or higher through the first 18 credits of graduate study.
- 2) If conditions were placed on the initial matriculation involving additional course work, all conditions must be met on or before the completion of 18 graduate credits. In order to register for course work beyond 18 graduate credits, the student may be required to provide a 15- to 30-minute videotape of a lesson with a whole class as part of a performance evaluation. Students will receive appropriate feedback and concrete suggestions for improvement, where needed. Each student may be required to integrate feedback and demonstrate improvement on a second videotape to be presented prior to graduation.
- 3) Students must take and submit grades earned on the Special Education Content Specialty Test.
- 4) Candidates are eligible for internship certificate once they complete 50 percent of the graduate course work.

Extensions and Annotations to the Initial/Professional Certificate in Teaching Students with Disabilities:

- A Bilingual Extension to the Initial/Professional Certificate in Teaching Students with Disabilities is available by completing a 15-18 credit Bilingual Extension Module.
- An Annotation for Teaching Students with Severe Disabilities is available to any student who completes the program of study in special education. This annotation requires an additional 9 credits of study involving characteristics of individuals with severe disabilities, collaborative partnership in the provision of services for individuals with severe disabilities, assistive technologies for individuals with severe disabilities, and transition and lifespan services.
- A 12-credit Extension in Teaching Students Who are Gifted and Talented ([EDS 725](#), [EDS 726](#), [EDS 727](#), and [EDS 728](#)) is available to any student who already holds an Initial/Professional Certificate as Teacher of Bilingual Early Childhood Special Education.
- The extension courses focus on the nature and needs of culturally and linguistically diverse gifted and talented students and on best practices for teaching students with these characteristics.

Questions about the program?

Dr. Danielle Magaldi-Dopman

Danielle.magaldidopman@lehman.cuny.edu

Questions about admissions?

The Office of Graduate Admissions

<http://www.lehman.edu/admissions>