



## Early Childhood Special Education

### Master of Science in Education

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.

Admission requirements for the 36-credit Certification Program in Early Childhood Special Education for applicants who already possess New York State certification are listed below.

#### 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 Early 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.
- Two letters of recommendation
- Participation in an interview

#### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- Complete a minimum of 36 graduate credits of study in an approved Special Education concentration
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 throughout the 36-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](http://www.nystce.nesinc.com/NY_annProgramUpdate.asp).

<b>Certification Program in Early Childhood Special Education (36 credits)</b>		<b>Credits</b>
EDS 701	Understanding Individuals with Disabilities	3
EDS 702	The Young Child with Special Needs	3
EDS 743	Behavioral Assessment, Management, and Change	3
EDS 703	Practicum in Behavioral Assessment and Management of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Young Children with Special Needs	3
EDS 704	Curriculum and Instructional Practices for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Young Children with Special Needs	3
EDS 705	Practicum in Curriculum and Instruction for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Young Children with Special Needs	3
EDS 741	Psycho-educational Evaluation of Children with Learning Problems	3
EDS 706	Practicum in Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Young Children with Special Needs	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

#### **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.
- 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?**

Prof. Danielle Magaldi-Dopman

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#### **Questions about admissions?**

The Office of Graduate Admissions

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