

# SPECIAL EDUCATION, BS

for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Special Education

The **Special Education, BS** is designed to prepare special education teachers for students kindergarten-age 22. An applicant must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 (A = 4.0), a minimum of 50 hours of prior experience with individuals with disabilities, and sophomore or higher standing prior to entering the professional education sequence of the program. A minimum of 125 semester hours of credit is required for graduation. To proceed to the five-semester professional education sequence, students must have completed all degree requirements outside of the professional education coursework.

Students pursuing teacher licensure programs in the College of Education (COE) must meet requirements in a series of sequential gateways. Included in the gateway requirements are successful completion of specified coursework, achievement of appropriate grade point averages, requirements for clinical experiences, and appropriate tests for the licensure area. Meeting all Gateway requirements leads to degree and licensure completion.

In order to be recommended for licensure, candidates are required to maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 (A = 4.0). Candidates in teaching licensure programs must maintain a C- or better in ALL content and professional education coursework. For teacher education licensure requirements applicable to all curricula, see the Council on Teacher Education. (<http://www.cote.illinois.edu/>)

Licensure requirements are subject to change without notice as a result of new mandates from the Illinois State Board of Education or the Illinois General Assembly.

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Students completing their degree before May 2026 should consult the 2023-2024 Catalog (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/archivedacademiccatalogs/>) to guide their selection of courses. Students enrolled starting August 2023 should consult the sequence below.

## Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 125 hours.

Requirements for licensure: Minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.5 (A=4.0); Receive a grade of C- or better in licensure coursework.

## University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300- or 400-level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The university and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (<https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part8/3-801/>) (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

## General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Code	Title	Hours
	Composition I	4-6
	Advanced Composition	3
	fulfilled by EDUC 202	
	Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
	fulfilled by EDUC 202 and SPED 117	
	Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6
	Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
	fulfilled by HK 262; and PSYC 100	
	Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
	Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3
	fulfilled by EDUC 201	
	Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3
	Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, one course must be a Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10
	Language Requirement (Completion of the third semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required)	0-15

## College of Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
EDUC 101	Education Orientation Seminar	1
	Professional Education Coursework	45
CI 415	Language Varieties, Cultures and Learning	3
CI 431	Teaching Elementary Mathematics	4
CI 475	Teaching Elementary Reading and Language Arts I	4
EDUC 201 & EDUC 202	Identity and Difference in Education and Social Justice, School and Society	6
EDPR 250	School & Community Experiences (Section: LBS)	4
EDPR 420	School Access & Supports (Section: LBE)	6
EDPR 420	School Access & Supports (Section: LBS)	6
EDPR 420	School Access & Supports (Section: LBT)	6
	Select one of the following courses:	3
EPSY 201	Educational Psychology	
HDFS 105	Intro to Human Development	
PSYC 216	Child Psych	
HK 262	Motor Develop, Growth & Form	3
PSYC 100	Intro Psych	4
SHS 320	Development of Spoken Language	3
	Special Education Core Coursework	45
SPED 117	The Culture of Disability	3
SPED 410	Principles of Universal Design for Learning & Models for Understanding Disability	4
SPED 412	Understanding Special Education Law & Ethics	4
SPED 418	Foundations of Assessment and Instruction	3
SPED 426	Preparing for Professional Practice	3

SPED 438	Collaboration with Diverse Families in Special Education	4
SPED 442	Teaching Reading to Learners with Disabilities	4
SPED 443	Teaching Writing to Learners with Disabilities	4
SPED 444	Facilitating the Transition to Adulthood for Students with Disabilities	3
SPED 452	Teaching Mathematics and Science to Learners with Disabilities I	4
SPED 453	Teaching Mathematics and Science to Learners with Disabilities II	4
SPED 462	Facilitating Educational Access for Students with Extensive Support Needs	3
SPED 470	School-Wide Behavior Supports in Learning Environments	3
SPED 471	Individualized Behavior Supports for Students with Disabilities	3

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## Sample Sequence

This sample sequence is intended to be used only as a guide for degree completion. All students should work individually with their academic advisors to decide the actual course selection and sequence that works best for them based on their academic preparation and goals. Enrichment programming such as study abroad, minors, internships, and so on may impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a third level of a language other than English. For more information, see the corresponding section on the Degree and General Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

### First Year

First Semester	Hours
EDUC 101	1
EDUC 201	3
Composition I or General Education course	4
Language Other Than English (3rd level)	4
General Education course	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

### Total Hours 15

### First Year

Second Semester	Hours
Composition I or General Education course	3
PSYC 100	4
SPED 117	3
General Education course	3

General Education course (choose a Humanities & Arts course with a Cultural Studies: Western or Non-Western designation)	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>16</b>

### Total Hours 16

### Second Year

First Semester	Hours
EDUC 202	3
EPSY 201, HDFS 105, or PSYC 216	3
HK 262	3
SHS 320	3
General Education course	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

### Total Hours 15

### Second Year

Second Semester	Hours
CI 415	3
SPED 410	4
SPED 412	4
SPED 438	4
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

### Total Hours 15

### Third Year

First Semester	Hours
CI 431	4
CI 475	4
EDPR 250	2
SPED 418	3
SPED 470	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>16</b>

### Total Hours 16

### Third Year

Second Semester	Hours
EDPR 250	2
SPED 442	4
SPED 452	4
SPED 462	3
SPED 471	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>16</b>

### Total Hours 16

### Fourth Year

First Semester	Hours
EDPR 420	6
SPED 443	4
SPED 444	3

SPED 453	4
	<b>17</b>

**Total Hours 17**

#### Fourth Year

Second Semester	Hours
SPED 426	3
EDPR 420	12
	<b>15</b>

**Total Hours 15**

**Total Hours: 125**

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1. Students will develop a deep understanding of central concepts, tools of inquiry and structures of the discipline of special education and of the content they teach.
2. Students will apply multiple methods of assessment to generate data for use in monitoring learner progress and guiding teacher decision-making.
3. Students will demonstrate consistently in their practice a commitment to fairness, collaboration, professionalism, and the belief that all students can learn.

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## College of Education

Education Building, 1310 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, IL 61820  
College of Education website (<https://education.illinois.edu/>)

### Department of Special Education

288 Education Building  
Special Education email: [andrewsl@education.illinois.edu](mailto:andrewsl@education.illinois.edu)  
Phone: (217) 333-0260  
Department of Special Education website (<https://education.illinois.edu/sped/>)  
Department of Special Education faculty (<https://education.illinois.edu/faculty-finder/?dept=Special%20Education>)

### Office of Undergraduate Programs

110 Education Building  
Education Academic Affairs email: [sao@education.illinois.edu](mailto:sao@education.illinois.edu)  
(217) 333-2800  
Admissions & Academics website (<https://education.illinois.edu/programs/undergrad/>)  
Student Academic Affairs website (<https://education.illinois.edu/student-resources/undergraduate/undergraduate-advising-support/>)