

**MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.Ed.)
IN SPECIAL EDUCATION
WITH TEACHING LICENSE IN SEVERE DISABILITIES**

Teacher License Requirements

Teacher Education Core.....26 credit hours
Specialization in Severe Disabilities.....32 credit hours

Students may be recommended for licensure to the Utah State Office of Education following completion of the Teacher License Requirements.

**Master of Education
Graduate Study Requirements**

Advanced Graduate Core.....9 credit hours

Establish Supervisory Committee

Qualifying Examination

Comprehensive Examination

Master Degree Residency Requirement

**TOTAL CREDIT HOURS FOR THE MASTER OF EDUCATION
WITH A LICENSE IN SEVERE DISABILITIES**.....67 credit hours

Teacher Education Core¹
(26 credit hours)

SP ED 6011 Teaching Early Childhood and Elementary Students in Inclusive Classrooms (3 credit hours)

Or

SP ED 6012 Teaching Secondary Students in Inclusive Classrooms (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6021 Principles of Assessment and Data Based Decision Making (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6022 Principles of Instruction and Behavior Support (3 credit hours)

SPED 6030 Functional Communication (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6040 Legal and Policy Issues (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6054 Professional Writing in Education (1 credit hour)

ED PS 6315 Reading Methods K-3 (3 credit hours)

And

EDU 5314 Reading Practicum K-3 (1 credit hour)

Or

EDU 5316 Reading Methods K-3 Field Experience (1 credit hour). Must be taken before EDU 5321

Or

ED PS 6320 Reading Methods 4-6 (3 credit hours)

EDU 6321 Reading Methods 4-6 Field Experience (1 credit hour).

ED PS 5005 Writing Methods (3 credit hours)

And

ED PS 6441 Integrating Technology into Reading and Writing (1 credit hour). Taken concurrently with ED PS 5005.

Approved upper division course on Cultural or Linguistic Diversity (3 credit hours)

Specialization in Severe Disabilities
(32 credit hours)

SP ED 6210 Service Delivery Models (2 credit hours)

SP ED 6221 Curriculum and Instruction for Students with Severe Disabilities I (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6222 Curriculum and Instruction for Students with Severe Disabilities II (3 credit hours)

¹ Students who hold a valid Utah teaching license in Special Education may not need to complete the following courses. Please check with your faculty advisor.

SP ED 6230 Behavior Support Planning (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6250 Managing Learning Environments (1 credit hour)

SP ED 6260 Trans-disciplinary Approaches (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6240 Field Experience (7 credit hours). Taken concurrently with SP ED 6221 and 6230.

SP ED 6300 Student Teaching (10 credit hours). Taken concurrently with SP ED 6222 and 6260.

Advanced Graduate Core (9 credit hours)

SP ED 6610 Introduction to Research Methods (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6612 Electronic Communication Aids (3 credit hours)

Or

SP ED 6613 AAC Instructional Strategies (3 credit hours)

Choose one:

SP ED 6620 Parent/Professional Collaboration (3 credit hours)

SP ED 6631 Assessment and Instructional Interventions in Reading Difficulties (3 credit hours)

Other Study Requirements²

Establish a Supervisory Committee

Students must establish a three member supervisory committee which will advise them in completing all study requirements. At least two members of the committee must be tenure track faculty in the Department of Special Education. In addition, the student must select a faculty member from the Department of Special Education with a tenure-track rank of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor to serve as chair of their supervisory committee. If desired, students may elect to appoint a member from another department or college at the University of Utah. Generally, a faculty member from outside of the Department of Special Education should have knowledge and expertise in the student's allied area of study. All committee members must hold a master's (M.A./M.S./M.Ed.) or doctoral (Ph.D./Ed.D.) degree. For more information, click here: <https://gradschool.utah.edu/catalog/degree.php>.

² Consult the Department of Special Education Graduate Student Handbook for the requirements for completing these study requirements.

Qualifying Examination

In order to advance to candidacy for the M.Ed. degree, students are required to pass a qualifying exam that will serve as a performance assessment of their conceptual and writing abilities. **Students must pass the exam *before* they enroll in courses in the advanced graduate core**, with the exception of SP ED 6610 - Introduction to Research Methods.

Comprehensive Examination

Students must complete a comprehensive examination to be awarded the Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree. The comprehensive exam is comprised of a single question developed by the supervisory committee and is designed to assess the breadth of the student's knowledge of the research base in his or her specialization area, the ability to synthesize and integrate the knowledge and skills developed in the specialization and advanced graduate core classes, and the ability to communicate ideas in written and oral form. Students must be enrolled in a minimum of three credit hours during the semester they complete the comprehensive examination.

Master Degree Residency Requirement

At least 24 credit hours must be in resident study at the University of Utah. Students are expected to complete their master's program within **four years** from the time they are matriculated. Previous graduate work may be applied to the requirements of the program if (a) approved by the student's supervisory committee, and (b) consistent with University Graduate School Policy.