

Education Specialist: Special Education

Degree Type

Education Specialist

- 36 semester credits required for Ed.S.
- 40 semester credits required for Ed.S. and endorsement
- Fully online

This major is designed for classroom teachers who hold elementary, secondary, or special education certification and wish to gain further expertise and/or become certified to teach special education. Additional training in aspects of regular education that are important to teaching students with exceptionalities is part of the program. The internship has two options: one option is for educators currently teaching in the classroom for special education; and one option is for others who are not currently teaching special education.

In the last semester, each student will enroll in EDUC7590P Special Education Portfolio (0-1) credits where they will upload their portfolio.

The Special Education program takes approximately 22 months, including the one semester of internship.

Courses in this program are fully online, but may have synchronous video class sessions. We encourage students to attend these sessions as they are available. Usually, archived sessions are available for review.

Individuals who currently hold a master's degree in Special Education from NNU would not qualify for this program, but would qualify to apply for other NNU EDS programs.

Required Courses for Ed.S. Special Education (Online):

Item #	Title	Credits
EDUC8000	Orientation: Graduate Education	0
EDUC7536	Mental Health and Trauma Informed Care	3
EDUC7538	Methods in Behavioral Intervention and Treatment	3
EDUC7540	Research, Theory, and Intervention of Reading and Literacy Difficulties	3
EDUC7548	Methods and Adaptations for Exceptional Learners	3
EDUC7549	IEPs and Transition	3
EDUC7555	Mixed Methods Research	3
EDUC7556	Conceptual Statistics and Applications for Educators	3
EDUC7568	Math Pedagogy and Intervention	3
EDUC7573	Technology: Special Education	3
EDUC7576	Special Education Law	3
EDUC7586	Assessment and Collaboration	3
EDUC7590P	Special Education Portfolio	0-1

Select one elective course from:

Item #	Title	Credits
EDUC7505	Teachers as Leaders	3
EDUC7511	The Learning Process	3
EDUC7532	Instructional Models	3
EDUC7552	Instructional Coaching	3
EDUC7553	Curriculum, Assessment, and Collaboration	3
EDUC7554	Innovative Instruction	3
EDUC7555	Mixed Methods Research	3
EDUC7571	Education in a Globalized and Multicultural Society	3
EDUC7575	Legal and Financial Issues in Education	3
EDUC7581	Instructional Supervision and Leadership	3
EDUC8670	Labor Relations in Schools	3
EDUC8671	Educational Change: A Historical Perspective	3
EDUC8674	School Facilities	3
EDUC8675	Public Relations and Marketing for Schools	3
EDUC8676	Special Populations: Issues and Resources	3

Additional Requirements for Endorsement:

To be recommended to the State of Idaho for a K-12 Exceptional Child Generalist endorsement on an Idaho Teaching Certificate, student must:

1. Successfully complete Ed.S. Special Education program
2. Satisfactorily complete EDUC7590 Special Education Internship (4)
3. Earn a passing score on the Idaho Comprehensive Literacy Assessment
4. Earn a passing score on the required PRAXIS II tests for special education

It is the student's responsibility to submit the appropriate paperwork and fees to the Idaho State Department of Education for obtaining certifications and endorsements in Idaho. Current forms and information are available from the ISDE website. Students should check the Internet and other sources for specific requirements for certification in other states.

Item #	Title	Credits
EDUC7590	Special Education Internship	4

Application Requirements - Ed.S. Special Education

All applicants to the program are responsible for familiarity with Idaho Code Section 33-1208; no person convicted of a felony or who would otherwise be denied certification or have certification revoked under Idaho Code 33-1208 will be admitted to the Special Education program.

The following requirements must be received by Admissions a minimum of one week before classes start, and are online, mailed or emailed as indicated. For mail: Northwest Nazarene University, Attention Graduate Admissions, 623 S. University Boulevard, Nampa, ID, 83686. For email: gps@nnu.edu. Transcripts can be received through email if sent from an accepted digital credentialing service, such as Parchment or the National Student Clearinghouse.

1. Online: application and \$50 non-refundable application fee.
2. Mail, or email from a digital service: official transcripts from the regionally accredited institution(s) where candidate received a master's degree. (We do not accept faxed transcripts.)
3. Email or mail: a copy of candidate's teaching certificate.
4. Online: two recommendation forms completed by professional colleagues.
5. Online: one supervisor evaluation form from the candidate's current building administrator. The online recommendation forms and the online evaluation form must be completed by different individuals.
6. Online: evidence of writing competency through an essay or paper from previous coursework.

Admission Requirements - Ed.S. Special Education

1. A master's degree from a regionally-accredited college or university.
2. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 in the master's program.
3. Certification/Licensure as a classroom teacher, school counselor, or school psychologist, based on a recommendation from a state-approved higher education preparation program.
4. Approval by the Graduate Education Admissions Committee.

The Graduate Education Admissions Committee may approve exceptions to regular admission requirements.

Graduation Requirements - Ed.S. Special Education

1. Credits must be earned in courses numbered 7000 or above. Continuing education courses and pass/fail courses (except those specified for degree completion) do not apply toward the degree. Exceptions for substitutions from other institutions may be approved by the program director.
2. The candidate must complete requirements as specified in the degree major. The degree must be completed within six years of beginning course work. If the degree is not completed within six years, the candidate must reapply to the program. Credits older than six years may need to be retaken.
3. The candidate must apply for graduation one full semester prior to anticipated degree completion. Deadlines: June 1 for Fall; October 15 for Spring; and January 15 for Summer.

Total Credits

36-40
