

SPECIAL EDUCATION: TEACHER EDUCATION MAJORS



The Special Education program is designed to give teacher candidates a strong foundation in both general and special education pedagogical knowledge and skills. The program offers a Bachelor's degree, two types of Master's degrees, an Education Specialist degree and a Doctor of Philosophy in Education with a concentration in Special Education. Additionally, both Bachelor and Master's degrees are offered in the Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Specific program contact information appears on the reverse side.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The bachelor's program is a dual license program leading to licensure in both Modified and Comprehensive Special Education. The license allows candidates to teach in Modified settings K-12 (for students with mild to moderate disabilities) and to teach in Comprehensive settings K-12 (for multiple and severe disabilities). Students receive a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Special Education at the conclusion of the senior year. Students may choose to complete additional coursework and field experiences to add endorsements in K-6 Elementary Education and Early Childhood Special Education (for young children with developmental delays and other special needs birth - grade 3).

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TEACHER EDUCATION (M.S.) Track II

The undergraduate program is unique in that it is part of a 5-year program, culminating with a Master's

degree. To complete the Master's degree, upon completion of the B.S. in Special Education, students continue for a fifth-year internship. This internship year is completed in Professional Development Schools and other partnership schools where students receive collaborative, year-long mentoring and participate in associated coursework with university and school system personnel. An additional 12 hours of graduate coursework, including special education assessment and assistive technology, leads to the Track II Master's degree.

MASTER'S OF SCIENCE IN TEACHER EDUCATION (M.S.) Track I

Students enrolling in the Track I Master's program may choose from two options: (1) K-12 Modified and Comprehensive or (2) Early Childhood Special Education. Track I offers a traditional Master's program for students with an undergraduate degree. Required hours vary depending upon whether students choose thesis or non-thesis options. The thesis option requires a minimum of 30 hours and the non-thesis option requires a minimum of 36 hours. Nontraditional students seeking alternative licensure sometimes pursue a Track I Master's degree.

SPECIALIST IN EDUCATION (Ed.S.)

The Ed.S. is an advanced professional development program for practicing educators. The program is dedicated to preparing teachers for leadership roles in the profession. A Master's degree and generally three years of professional experience are required for admission to the program. Completion of the Ed.S. program requires 30 hours of graduate-level coursework beyond the Master's degree and offers both thesis and non-thesis options.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) EDUCATION MAJOR

SPECIAL EDUCATION CONCENTRATION
The education doctoral program with concentration in Special Education provides graduates with the skills necessary to teach and conduct research in university settings and/or to provide a high level of leadership in a variety of community, state, or national service agencies. The program is designed to provide future special education leaders with enhanced knowledge

and expertise in a specified area of special education while simultaneously ensuring a broad knowledge of general education and general special education and advanced skills in group and single-subject research. Individuals seeking admission to the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education must meet requirements of the Graduate School of the University of Tennessee and the Department of Theory and Practice in Teacher Education (TPTE) in the College of Education, Health, & Human Sciences (CEHHS). Prospective students are encouraged to make application at least six months before anticipated matriculation. Requirements include scores at the 50th percentile or above in verbal and quantitative areas and a score of 4.5 in writing on the Graduate Record Exam, a minimum of three years professional experience, and other requirements specified by TPTE.

ADDITIONAL ENDORSEMENTS & CERTIFICATIONS

Students may opt to add additional specializations (e.g., Reading Specialist, Applied Behavioral Analyst) to some advanced programs. Interested candidates can plan a course of study with an academic advisor.

ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE ROUTES

The University of Tennessee, in conjunction with the Tennessee State Department of Education, offers four alternative licensure routes. Assuming applicants meet desired qualifications, fee waivers may be awarded for these programs. The award entails a commitment to full-time teaching for one year in a Tennessee public school for each semester the award is received. In addition, admission into the Institutes leading to license in Modified, Comprehensive, or Early Childhood Special Education, applicants must be recommended by a Tennessee school district special education supervisor. This recommendation implies employment or intent to employ by that system. Prospective candidates may find additional information at the Tennessee State Department of Education website. www.k12.tn.us

1. ALTERNATIVE ENDORSEMENT IN MODIFIED SPECIAL EDUCATION K-12 SUMMER INSTITUTE

The Modified Summer Institute provides training and support to professionals wishing to work with K-12 students who are served in Modified programs. The Institute is designed to meet the special education methods requirements for adding the Modified K-12 Special Education endorsement to an elementary license during one summer of full-time study. Additional coursework is required for candidates with secondary endorsements and for candidates seeking initial alternative licensure in Special Education.

2. ALTERNATIVE ENDORSEMENT IN COMPREHENSIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION K-12 SUMMER INSTITUTE

This Summer Institute provides training and support to professionals wishing to work with K-12 students (multiple and severe disabilities) who are served in Comprehensive Programs. The Institute is primarily designed to meet the special education methods requirements for adding the Comprehensive Special Education endorsement to an elementary license and/or Modified Special Education license during one summer of full-time study. Additional coursework is required for candidates with secondary endorsements and for candidates seeking initial alternative licensure in Special Education.

3. BASE-TN ROUTE

BASE-TN provides financial assistance in the form of tuition remission for either part-time or full-time study to professional personnel who desire to teach children with disabilities. The purpose of the program is to help candidates meet licensure requirements in the area of Special Education. Participation in the program is limited to (a) post-baccalaureate candidates admitted to teacher education programs (or eligible to be admitted and/or who have provided written intent to seek admission) in approved Tennessee colleges and universities, and (b) educational assistants with at least two years of transferable college credit in an area of special education who are currently employed by a Tennessee public school and serve students with disabilities ages birth through 21. These candidates must seek

Tennessee initial licensure in Special Education or an endorsement in Special Education.

4. ENDORSEMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

The purpose of the Early Childhood Special Education Summer Institute is to provide training to professionals interested in improving their knowledge and skills in working with young children with developmental delays and other special needs. Program options are available for teachers seeking an endorsement in early childhood special education and for teaching assistants approved to seek initial licensure. Licensed teachers can participate in graduate courses available through the Summer Institute or arrange for tuition credit for other courses required for the PreK-3 Special Education endorsement. Persons employed as teaching assistants or in related areas of early childhood special education (e.g., Head Start), seeking initial licensure can apply for approval to receive tuition credit for general education courses or participate in the Institute courses.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Special Education Programs	Alternative Routes & BASE-TN
Karen Walker Senior Secretary	Dr. Sharon Barkdoll Phone: 865/974-6459
Phone: 865/974-3435	Email: sbarkdol@utk.edu
Email: karenw@utk.edu	

Graduate Admission for TPTE and
Education of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program
Vicki Church, Secretary
Phone: 865/974-2321
Email: vickic@utk.edu

FACULTY

Dr. Sharon Barkdoll, Clinical Instructor
Dr. Sherry Mee Bell, Modified Programs
Dr. Susan Benner, Early Childhood Special Education
Dr. David Cihak, Comprehensive Programs
Dr. Mari Beth Coleman, Assistive Technology
Joan Grim, Early Childhood Special Education
Brenda Stephenson, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Programs

THE UNIVERSITY of
TENNESSEE

College of Education, Health
and Human Sciences



SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM



**Department of
Theory & Practice in
Teacher Education
Knoxville, Tennessee
37996-3442
<http://web.utk.edu/~tpte>**

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