

SPECIAL EDUCATION - ED.S.

College of Education Health and Human Services
School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences
www.kent.edu/ehhs/ldes

About This Program

The Special Education Ed.S. program provides the knowledge and skills you need to create inclusive and equitable learning environments for all students. With a focus on evidence-based practices and individualized instruction, you'll be prepared to address the unique needs of each student you serve. Join us and become an advocate for exceptional learners, equipped with the tools to provide a high-quality education for all. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Brian Barber** | bbarber8@kent.edu | 330-672-0605
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - Mostly online
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Education administrators, all other

- 8.1% much faster than the average
- 52,100 number of jobs
- \$87,580 potential earnings

Education teachers, postsecondary

- 4.8% about as fast as the average
- 77,300 number of jobs
- \$65,440 potential earnings

Community and social service specialists, all other

- 11.7% much faster than the average
- 105,200 number of jobs
- \$46,770 potential earnings

Social and community service managers

- 17.0% much faster than the average
- 175,500 number of jobs
- \$69,600 potential earnings

Accreditation

The Council of Education of the Deaf

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Master's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 graduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale (minimum 3.250 GPA is recommended) *starting with spring 2026 admission term, minimum 3.000 GPA will be required*
- Official transcript(s)
- Résumé or curriculum vitae
- Goal statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following:¹
 - Minimum 79 TOEFL iBT score
 - Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
 - Minimum 58 PTE score
 - Minimum 110 DET score

¹ International applicants who do not meet the above test scores will not be considered for admission.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Spring Semester**
 - Rolling admissions
- **Summer Term**
 - Rolling admissions

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
Program Elective ¹		3
Statistics and Research Design Elective, choose from the following: ¹		3
RMS 75510	STATISTICS I FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	
RMS 75610	CLASSROOM ASSESSMENT	
RMS 85516	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN	
SPED 63300	RESEARCH APPLICATIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
Major Area of Study Electives, choose from the following: ¹		12
SPED 73030	PHARMACOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
SPED 73950	CURRICULUM AND INTERVENTION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES	
SPED 73956	FOUNDATIONS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES	

SPED 73957	ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES	
SPED 73996	INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
SPED 74200	CURRICULUM METHODS FOR TRANSITION PLANNING AND COLLABORATION	
SPED 80002	ANALYSIS OF THE LITERATURE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
SPED 80005	EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
SPED 83201	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION	
Minor Area of Study Electives, choose from the following: ¹		12
CES 78011	FOUNDATIONS OF SCHOOL COUNSELING	
CES 77531	COUNSELING SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES	
CES 78182	CAREER COUNSELING	
EDLE 76542	PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF SUPERVISION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION	
EPSY 75520	CHILD AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT	
EPSY 75524	LEARNING THEORIES	
RMS 78807	PROGRAM EVALUATION	
SPED 73204	LEGAL AND POLICY FOUNDATIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION	
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		30

¹ All electives, including additional coursework, must be approved by the student's Ed.S. degree committee.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
-	3.000

- Upon admission to the Ed.S. degree program, students will be assigned an advisor.
- Minimum 6 credit hours of coursework in statistics and research design are required.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the program will be able to:

1. Attain the background knowledge and critical thinking skills necessary to advance their ability to identify and plan evidence-based educational practices for exceptional learners.
2. Increase their proficiency with the pedagogical and decision-making skills necessary to implement evidence-based educational practices for exceptional learners.
3. Attain an appropriate level of expertise in methods of assessment relevant to providing special education to exceptional learners in schools.
4. Articulate professional positions on critical legal, policy and practice issues in special education that are grounded in logical analysis, empirical research and the ethical foundations of the field.

Full Description

The Educational Specialist degree in Special Education provides an advanced degree in specialized areas of educational programming for children and youth with exceptionalities. The program meets the needs of post-master's degree students who wish to assume leadership roles in

schools and agencies that provide special education and related services to children, youth and adults who have disabilities.

The Ed.S. degree is designed for the accomplished, experienced practitioner with specific professional aspirations. The program is not designed for those who wish to pursue a research emphasis as a prelude to doctoral study.

Professional Licensure Disclosure

This program is designed to prepare students to sit for applicable licensure or certification in Ohio. If you plan to pursue licensure or certification in a state other than Ohio, please review state educational requirements for licensure or certification and contact information for state licensing boards at Kent State's website for professional licensure disclosure.