

# SPECIAL EDUCATION (EDS)

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## Admission Requirements

- A graduate degree from an accredited college or university in a major related to the planned field of study;
- Possess or be eligible for a Georgia Professional Level Five Teaching Certificate (or equivalent) in Special Education;
- Present a 3.00 GPA or higher on all prior graduate work attempted;
- Have acquired at least three years of acceptable teaching experience in a K-12 school environment;
- Provide two letters of reference attesting to a high level of professional skills;
- Satisfactory scores on the verbal subtest and either the quantitative or analytical subtest of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), or a valid renewable teaching license at the T-5 level;
- Additional admission criteria may be applied at the department level. Admission decisions are appealable to the College of Education Graduate Appeals Committee.

## Additional Program Requirements

- Students must earn a 3.0 GPA calculated on all graduate work attempted. "Academic Forgiveness" policy does not apply to graduate studies.
- Students cannot graduate with a grade of "C" or below in more than two (2) graduate courses without an appeal to the College of Education Graduate Council.
- A minimum of 24 semester hours required for the degree must be earned in residence (75%). Asynchronous (online) and distance learning courses administered through Columbus State University constitute courses taken in residence.
- A maximum of six (6) semester hours of transfer credit or courses taken at CSU prior to full admission to a specialist degree program may be applied toward the degree. Courses with earned grades of "C" or below are not accepted. Courses must be approved by the major advisor and department chair.