



Fact Sheet Eastern Illinois University's Department of Special Education

Special Education is a rewarding career. Eastern's Special Education program is a strong program with an excellent state and national reputation. Nationwide professionals prepared in Special Education are in high demand.

The University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges. Teacher education programs are accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. The Special Education programs are approved by the Council for Exceptional Children and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Department of Special Education prepares personnel for the Learning Behavior Specialist I State of Illinois Special Education endorsement and Early Childhood Special Education approval.

The State of Illinois has a State Special Education Teacher Scholarship and a Minority Teacher Scholarship. The Illinois Student Assistance Commission monitors these two scholarships. Candidates are also eligible for the Federal TEACH Grant.

Upon graduation, program completers seek Illinois Professional Educator license endorsed for the LBSI in Special Education. Any student desiring to earn the Elementary endorsement in addition to the LBSI endorsement may do so by supplementing the Standard Special Option with the aid of an academic advisor in the Department of Special Education. Any student desiring to earn a High School endorsement may do so by supplementing the Standard Special Option with the aid of an academic advisor in the Department. The Department also has a program that prepares Early Childhood Special Educators that culminates in an LBSI endorsement with a letter of approval for early childhood special education. The LBSI endorsement with the Early Childhood Letter of Approval and an Early Childhood endorsement may also be earned with the aid of an advisor. A University Honors program is available for undergraduates.

The Department of Special Education prepares individuals for a variety of professional roles depending on the program chosen: Birth to 3 Child Development Specialist, Birth to 3 Home Trainer or Home-based Specialist, Birth to 3 Parent Infant Educator, Early Childhood Special Educator for ages 3-5, Hospital Education Specialist, Parent Trainer, Special Education, PK-21, Home-based Special Educator, Resource Teacher-Special Education, Agency Worker, Camp Counselor for Children with Disabilities, Case Manager, and Correctional Institution Teacher.

The Department of Special Education faculty teach and model research-based best practice. Faculty are involved in local, state, and national organizations, putting the department in the forefront of the Special Education professional field.

For information, contact: Department of Special Education; Eastern Illinois University; 600 Lincoln Avenue; Charleston, IL 61920-3099; Phone: (217) 581-5315; Web Site: <http://www.eiu.edu/speced/>

What I can do with a major in...

Special Education

Early Childhood Special Education

Birth to 3 Child Development Specialist
Birth to 3 Home Trainer or
Home-based Specialist
Birth to 3 Parent Infant Educator
Curriculum Developer – Early Childhood
Special Educator
Early Childhood Special
Educator for Ages 3-5
Hospital Educational Specialist
Parent Trainer
Technical Assistant, Ages 3-5,
Special Education

Other Possibilities

Agency Worker (Government)
Camp Counselor for Children with Disabilities
Case Manager
Children's Home Staff Member
Correctional Institution Teacher
Counselor for Individuals with Disabilities
(Institutions)
Educational Diagnostician
Group Home Supervisor
Hospital Educational Specialist
Job Coach
Parent Coordinator
Pre-vocational Coordinator
Probation/Parole Officer
Special Needs Counselor/Coordinator
Supported Work Supervisor
Workshop Director

Special Education K-21

Elementary Teacher, Grades 1-5,
Special Ed., LD, BD,
CI, Autism and/or LBS I

Middle School Teacher,
Grades 6-8, Special Ed,
LD, BD, CI, Autism
and/or LBS I

High School Teacher,
Grades 9-12, Special Ed
LD, BD, CI, Autism
and/or LBS I

Home-Based Special Educator
Junior High School Special
Educator, LD, BD, CI,
Autism and/or LBS I

Resource Consultant –
Special Education, K-21

Special Education Inclusion Specialist
K-21
Co-Teaching, LBSI, K-21

Eastern Illinois University
Department of Special Education Website:

<http://www.eiu.edu/speced/>