

The Master of Education in

Special Education

Impacting teaching and learning for children with special needs.

There has never been a greater need for all educators to understand and appreciate the unique challenges of children with special needs. UMSLs Master of Education in Special Education explores important core knowledge in special education. The programs primary goal is to empower professionals as thoughtful educators who use best practices when assisting and empowering students with disabilities. Research and data-driven decision-making are emphasized throughout the program. Graduate students will apply learned and evaluated research into practice in their courses, and learn to analyze multiple types of assessment data.

No other master's degree-level, special education program in the greater St. Louis region comes close to matching the expertise and practical applications that the UMSL MED in Special Education brings to practicing special educators.

The Master of Education in Special Education

This 30-hour, online/campus-based program offers three emphasis areas that build upon candidates' existing strengths, or strengthen areas that build their effectiveness as educators:

Early Childhood Special Education Emphasis

This emphasis area includes coursework on the screening and diagnosis of developmental delays (birth to age five); an introduction to early childhood special education; and the curriculum methods and materials for early childhood special education.

Cross Categorical Disabilities Emphasis

This emphasis area includes coursework on the characteristics and education of students with high-incidence disabilities; speech and language interventions that assist children with disabilities; reading instruction and intervention in special education; social-emotional and behavior interventions; and transition education for adult life.

Autism and Developmental Disabilities Emphasis

This emphasis area includes coursework on the characteristics and education of individuals with low-incidence disabilities; the foundations of autism spectrum disorder; research to practice; and assessment and intervention for children and youth with autism spectrum disorder.



Preparing for an ever-changing world.

The College of Education at UMSL offers a variety of programs that lead to exciting and rewarding career opportunities. Our faculty, staff and community partners are committed to providing experiences to build the knowledge and skills needed for individuals to be successful in multiple educational settings and occupations. These careers include teachers, principals and district superintendents; teachers and administrators for informal education organizations like museums, zoos and nature centers; counselors and mental health professionals for schools, hospitals, corporate employee assistance programs, clinics and private settings; and postsecondary leaders and instructors for community colleges, career technical schools and four-year colleges and universities.

The college hosts many centers and initiatives that enhance student experiences in our programs, and works with more than 35 public, private and charter schools throughout the region, as well as sponsoring eight charter schools.

Serious education. Serious value.

The MEd in Special Education is designed to provide specialized knowledge, skills and training in a flexible format. You'll learn from highly qualified educators and researchers who hold terminal degrees from some of the world's most prestigious academic institutions.

The University of Missouri–St. Louis provides the knowledge, resources, tools, skills and support students need to be successful in our programs. Our comprehensive student support services include workshops, tutoring and career services to help you develop skills and strategies to be successful in the classroom and beyond. We're also committed to increasing access to higher education, which is why UMSL is consistently ranked number one in affordability in the St. Louis region.

Career Pathways

Special Education Teacher
Adult Basic, Literacy and
Secondary Education Teacher
Career and Technical Education Teacher
Post-Secondary Teacher
Post-Secondary Administrator
Instructional Coordinator
Educational Administrator
Textbook Writer
Curriculum Developer
Educational Consultant
Educational Program Planner

College of Education

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Office of Graduate Admissions

121 Woods Hall 1 University Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63121 314-516-5458 gradadm@umsl.edu graduate.umsl.edu



Learn more at coe.umsl.edu

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is the largest public research university located in Missouri's most populous and economically important region. UMSL provides high-quality, affordable education to one of the most diverse student bodies in the state. No university is better connected to the surrounding region than UMSL. More than 75% of our graduates stay in St. Louis. The region needs well-equipped, skilled education professionals and UMSL is prepared to help you meet those needs. Choose the University of Missouri–St. Louis for special education.

CHOOSE UMSL