

SPECIAL EDUCATION (LICENSURE TRACK)

Bachelor of Arts in Education and Human Development (B.A.) – Catalog Year 2026 -2027

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Special Education (SPED) track in the Education and Human Development (EDHD) major prepares students to address the exceptional learning needs of individuals ages five to 21. The Special Education track combines cutting-edge research with real classroom experiences. Students gain critical knowledge and interventions to teach learners with exceptional learning needs. The 126-credit hour licensure track fulfill all requirements for a license to work with children ages five to 21 in Colorado's school districts. This track is designed to enhance your ability to effectively support diverse, urban students with disabilities in K-12 public schools and alternative settings.

A unique feature of this pathway is that you will be able to add the Colorado Department of Education's elementary endorsement to your credentials. Essentially, you will leave this program with both the Special Education License and the Elementary Education Endorsement through the Colorado Department of Education. This means you are prepared to teach Special Education AND K-6, making you highly employable and desirable to schools!

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The School of Education & Human Development (SEHD) requires all students to meet with their Academic Advisor several times a year to develop and learn more about their own individualized plan of study.

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www.ucdenver.edu/education

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

To receive a bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado Denver, students must satisfy all of the requirements below, in addition to completing a Major and fulfilling all of their School or College requirements.

1. A minimum of 120 credit hours is required to graduate from CU Denver with a bachelor's level degree.
2. A minimum 2.000 cumulative GPA is required for all University of Colorado coursework.
3. Satisfactory completion of the CU Denver Core Curriculum.

In addition to the general university graduation requirements listed above, all SEHD students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements:

1. Students must earn a final grade of at least a C (2.0) in major courses and a B- (2.7) or above in designated major courses and Professional Year Residency courses within the major. These courses/requirements must be repeated if the student fails to earn the grade required.
2. Students must complete required classroom-based field experiences.
3. Students must complete all program assessments and professional milestones as outlined in the Student Handbook. For teacher education licensure students, this includes meeting Colorado Department of Education content competency requirements.
4. Students must complete all requirements associated with their SEHD major.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the academic advisor in the School of Education & Human Development to confirm major requirements. Students completing the Education and Human Development BA degree in Special Education (EDHD – Special Education) must meet the minimum program requirements listed below.

1. Students must complete a minimum of 126 semester hours for the EDHD Special Education Track.
2. Students must meet the Colorado Department of Education content competency requirements through approved Multiple Measures or by passing the appropriate Praxis.
3. Application to the last year of the program, the Professional Year Residency is required. After successfully completing all other Core, major, and elective courses, all students must apply for admission into the Professional Year. Requirements for admission include a 3.0 GPA, positive letters of recommendation, successful evaluations of earlier clinical experiences, and a successful interview. (Students with a lower GPA may be considered under certain conditions. Please see SEHD website.)
4. A minimum GPA of 2.0, grade of C or better, is required for all major courses applying to EDHD – Special Education requirements unless otherwise specified.
5. Students must complete and maintain a 3.0 minimum grade point average in Professional Year coursework to complete licensure requirements. Please see an advisor for more information on this requirement.
6. Transfer courses must be approved by faculty and/or advisor to apply to the major.

School of Education & Human Development

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Courses	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 37	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
EDHD – Special Education Requirements	57	
INTE 2000 Digital Teaching and Learning	3	
Development Course: HDFR 1010 or HDFR 2110 or HDFR 3050	3	Choose one course
CLDE 2000 Foundations of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Edu	3	† Education Licensure Course
MTED 3040 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers	3	† Education Licensure Course
EDFN 4010 Social Foundations & Cultural Diversity in Urban Education	3	*Prerequisite: 27+ credit hours completed; † Education Licensure Course
SPED 4300 Family, Professional, and Community Collaboration	3	*Prerequisite: 57+ credit hours completed
SPED 4400 Universal Design for Learning (UDL)	3	*Prerequisite: 57+ credit hours completed
CLDE 4020 Responsive Classroom Communities	3	*Prerequisites: EDFN 4010, 40+ credit hours completed. † Education Licensure Course
SPED 4151 Slashing Stigmas: Promoting Positive Behaviors	3	
SPED 4500 Transition & Secondary Methods in SPED	3	Corequisite: EDHD 2930 or EDHD 3930
SPED 4780 Literacy Interventions in SPED	3	*Prerequisite: 40+ credit hours completed
EDFN 1000 Equity, Rights & Education or LCRT 2000 or LCRT 3815	3	Choose one course
Clinical Field Experience#1: Community-Based		§ Clinical Field Experience Block
EDHD 1930 Community Based Field Experience & Seminar	3	† Education Licensure Course; § Clinical Field Experience Block
Clinical Field Experience Block #2: Learning & Development		*Prerequisites: EDHD 1930; § Clinical Field Experience Block
EDHD 2930 Learning & Development Field Experience & Seminar	3	† Education Licensure Course. § Clinical Field Experience Block
LCRT 3720 Introduction to Writing Development & Teaching	3	§ Clinical Field Experience Block
LCRT 4000 Elementary Literacy Instruction & Assessment PK-2	3	§ Clinical Field Experience Block
Clinical Field Experience Block #3: Diverse Learners		*Prerequisites: EDHD 2930; § Clinical Field Experience Block
EDHD 3930 Diverse Learners Field Experience & Seminar	3	† Education Licensure Course; § Clinical Field Experience Block
SPED 4740 Intersection of Literacy, Culture & Exceptionality or CLDE 3830 Cult. & Ling. Responsive Teaching in STEM	3	§ Clinical Field Experience Block
SPED 4030 Understanding (dis)Ability in Contemporary Classrooms	3	† Education Licensure Course; § Clinical Field Experience Block
Estimated General Electives	7 - 10	General Elective credits will vary; consult with advisor
Professional Year Courses	28	Professional Year (separate admission required; see note below)
LCRT 4710 Primary Literacy for Diverse Learners Pre K - 3rd Grade	3	† Education Licensure Course; ‡ CLDE Endorsement Course. Professional Year
MTED 4002 Elementary Mathematics Teaching I	3	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
MTED 4003 Elementary Mathematics Teaching II	3	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
SPED 4140 Assessment, Inquiry, Instruction & Intervention	3	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
JEDU 4040 Planning for Learning	3	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
SPED 4010 Intentional Interventions for Except Learners	3	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
JEDU 4931 Internship & Learning Community I	2	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
JEDU 4932 Internship & Learning Community II	2	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
JEDU 4933 Internship & Learning Community III	6	† Education Licensure Course; Professional Year
Total Program Hours:	126	

† **Education Licensure Course:** requires minimum grade of B- or higher

§ **Clinical Field Experience Block:**

- All courses in a clinical field experience block must be taken together, in the same semester
- Field experience paperwork deadlines:
 - Fall placement = 4/1 Priority deadline: 4/15 Final deadline
 - Spring placement = 11/1 Priority deadline; 11/15 Final deadline

|| **Professional Year:** Admission to Professional Year required

- Requirements for admission to Professional Year include:
 - A minimum GPA of 3.0 in major coursework
 - Successful completion of all other coursework (including Core, major, and elective requirements)
 - Successful completion of the application and interview process
- Professional Year application deadlines:
 - Fall start = 2/15 deadline
 - Spring start = 10/1 deadline

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SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors. Consult with an academic advisor to develop an individualized plan of study. **Students deviating from this plan must fulfill course prerequisites and must meet with the academic advisor in their department to confirm degree requirements.**

*Note: Many required courses are also available in summer semesters.

Year One

Fall	CRS
ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3
MTED 3040	3
CU Denver Core Arts	3
CLDE 2000 / SEHD Learning Community	3
CU Denver Core Humanities	3
General Elective – UNIV 1110/ SEHD Learning Community	1
Total Credit Hours	16

Spring	CRS
ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
CU Denver Core Math – MATH 1010 recommended	3
CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab	4
EDFN 1000 or LCRT 2000 or LCRT 3815	3
<i>Clinical Field Experience #1: Community-Based</i>	
EDHD 1930	3
Total Credit Hours	16

Year Two

Fall	CRS
HDFR 1010	3
INTE 2000	3
CU Denver Core International Perspectives	3
CU Denver Core Behavioral Science	3
CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science without lab	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Spring	CRS
EDFN 4010	3
CU Denver Core Social Sciences	3
<i>Clinical Field Experience Block #2: Learning & Development</i>	
EDHD 2930	3
LCRT 3720	3
LCRT 4000	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Year Three

Fall	CRS
SPED 4400	3
General Elective	3
SPED 4500	3
<i>Clinical Field Experience Block #3: Diverse Learners</i>	
EDHD 3930	3
SPED 4740 or CLDE 3830	3
SPED 4030	3
Total Credit Hours	18

Spring	CRS
CLDE 4020	3
SPED 4151	3
CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
SPED 4300	3
SPED 4780	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15

In second semester of year three, apply for admission to Professional Year. Deadlines for Professional Year application are 2/15 for Fall start or 10/1 for Spring start.

Year Four

Fall	CRS
LCRT 4710	3
UEDU 4040	3
MTED 4002	3
SPED 4140	3
UEDU 4931	2
UEDU 4932	2
Total Credit Hours	16

Spring	CRS
MTED 4003	3
SPED 4010	3
UEDU 4933	6
Total Credit Hours	12

After graduation, apply for a teaching license through the Colorado Department of Education.