

MEd or Endorsement in Special Education - Low Incidence

The Master of Education or endorsement in special education — low incidence at Wichita State University prepares educators for teaching students with moderate to severe disabilities. The program is designed to develop reflective practitioners who possess both theoretical understanding and practical skills related to:

- the field of special education for students with functional learning needs,
- effective communication and collaboration, and
- research-validated practices.

The special education — low Incidence program prepares professional practitioners to make curricular and instructional modifications in order to facilitate successful student learning. Courses are offered online enabling graduate students to earn their degree while employed full time and balancing other obligations.

Admission

Admission requirements include:

- GPA of 3.000 or higher; OR GPA of at least 2.750 and official GRE scores of at least 152 in Verbal and 153 in Quantitative.
- Full admission to WSU Graduate School.
- Current teaching certificate/license (or eligible for a certificate/license).

Applications are evaluated upon receipt.

Program Requirements

The fully online Master of Education in special education — low incidence may be earned under a thesis or nonthesis option — 30 credit hours of coursework, practical experience, and the culminating experience (i.e., thesis or nonthesis). Candidates may elect to complete only the endorsement in special education — low incidence through completion of the required courses (23 credit hours).

Background Check

Upon admission and prior to their first semester, all applicants admitted to this program must clear a criminal background check. There are two reasons for this requirement. First, it is part of the university’s due diligence before placing students in field settings. Second, the check may alert applicants or students to issues that may subsequently affect their ability to work in their chosen field. In instances when a person’s criminal history raises reasonable concerns that should be cleared to engage in the field experiences and/or subsequently obtain licensure/endorsement, WSU may take a range of actions, including rescission of admission or dismissal from the program, depending on the nature of the concern.

For information regarding this requirement, visit: Advanced Programs (<https://wichita.edu/clesadvancedprograms>).

MEd or Endorsement in Special Education - Low Incidence Track

Course	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
CI 784	Foundations of Education for Individuals with Exceptionalities	3

CI 742	Introduction to Teaching Strategies for Students with Severe/Multiple Disabilities	3
CI 749F	Practicum: Low-Incidence Learners	3
CI 796	Family and Professional Collaboration	3
CI 812	Transition across Life Span	2
CI 818 & 818A	Positive Behavior Supports for Students With Exceptionalities and Internship/Practicum: Positive Behavior Supports ¹	4
CI 820 & 820A	Advanced Teaching Strategies for Students with Severe and Multiple Disabilities and Internship/Practicum: Low-Incidence Learning Needs ¹	3
CI 822	Principles of Nondiscriminatory Assessment for Students With Exceptionalities	2
Research Component		
CESP 704	Introduction to Educational Statistics	3
or CI 717	Qualitative Inquiry in Education	
or CLES 801	Introduction to Educational Research	
Select one of the following combinations		4
CI 862 & CI 863	Evidence-Based Inquiry: Capstone Project Proposal and Evidence-Based Inquiry: Capstone Project	
CI 875 & CI 876	Master’s Thesis and Master’s Thesis	
Total Credit Hours		30

¹ These combinations must be taken together. Requires a B- or better.

Note: After successful completion of the first 9 credit hours, the candidate is eligible to apply to KSDE for a two-year provisional endorsement. A second two-year provisional may be applied for if the candidate has continued to make adequate progress in the program. Please contact the Licensure Office in Education Support Services, 316-978-3300, for information on the licensure application to submit.

Applied Learning

Students are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from programs in curriculum and instruction. The requirements can be met by completing either a master’s thesis or capstone research project in which the emphasis is on applying professional practices to research and is directly linked to applied learning. In addition, students who graduate from the graduate program in special education must experience at least 135 hours of field experience/internship in special education classrooms.