Gifted Education (Graduate Certificate)

ASU’s Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College is one of the top-ranked graduate colleges of education in the U.S. Our graduate programs develop collaborative leaders who bring people and ideas together to enrich the lives of learners, amplify the impact of educators and improve the performance of education systems.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Gifted Education (Certificate)
The graduate certificate program in gifted education prepares teachers, school administrators, school psychologists, early interventionists and family members to work effectively with gifted children. The program provides students with the theory and pedagogy needed to identify and serve gifted children as well as the knowledge and skills required to develop and provide the most current instructional methods and services for their gifted students.

Graduates of the program understand how to identify learning potential and address specific needs of gifted and talented students. They have gained an understanding of gifted students' unique affective and academic needs and know how to design and provide appropriately challenging, differentiated curriculum and instruction so that gifted students may develop their full potential.

Graduates have learned how to develop a continuum of gifted programs and services, work with school administrators, teachers, school boards and parents, and are able to advocate for gifted students at local and national levels.

The program also provides coursework in gifted education required for the gifted education (K-12) endorsement from the Arizona Department of Education. Students should refer to the Arizona Department of Education website for additional requirements.

At a Glance
Degree Requirements

15 credit hours

Required Core (12 credit hours)
SPE 585 Creativity: Foundations of Research and Development in Gifted Education (3)
SPE 586 Advising the Gifted Learner: Social and Emotional Needs (3)
SPE 587 Special Populations in Gifted Education (3)
SPE 588 The Gifted Learner: Foundations of Identification, Education and Development (3)

Electives (3 credit hours)
SPE 572 Testing and Measurement in Gifted Education: Methods (3)
SPE 573 Differentiating Instruction for Gifted Learners: Teaching Methods (3)
SPE 589 Gifted Education Programming: Models, Methods and Services (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students choose one course from SPE 572, SPE 573 or SPE 589 to complete the elective requirement.

There is no culminating experience required for this certificate program.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, preferably in education or a related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. resume
5. proof of English proficiency
Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

The personal statement should describe the applicant's interests and reason for seeking this degree.

GRE scores are not required for admission.

For disclosure information about this U.S. Department of Education Gainful Employment program, students should see https://catalog.asu.edu/files/disclosures/TEGEDGRCT/Gedt.pdf.

Attend Online
ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Career Opportunities
Students gain skills in creating and strengthening gifted programs, developing instructional methods, advocating for learners and working with school districts and families. This prepares them to expand or pursue education careers working with gifted learners.

Career examples include:

- education administrator
- gifted teacher
- guidance counselor
- teacher assistant
- vocational education teacher

Contact Information
Educational Leadership & Innovation, Division | ED 118
GraduateEducation@asu.edu | 602-543-6358