Moment by moment, day by day and person by person, educators improve lives and strengthen communities. We understand that the creativity that fuels the great innovations of our time is the same force that animates great educators. Our graduate programs develop collaborative leaders who bring people and ideas together to improve education.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MEd Special Education (Teacher Certification)

This program is for those seeking Arizona teacher certification in special education. The special education program builds strong connections between theory and practice through quality classroom instruction paired with extensive clinical experiences.

Students gain a strong foundation in teaching and content knowledge from experts in the field of education. Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College faculty actively engage in the educational research community and embed this vital knowledge throughout the program. This connection further empowers students to engage in their own research through the culminating action research applied project.

A series of clinical experiences or field placements are designed to assist students in developing a thorough understanding of teaching and learning as they apply knowledge from their coursework in varied school settings. Individualized guidance through our clinical framework provides students with the support they need to be successful in today's rapidly evolving educational environment.

The MEd program in special education with Arizona teacher certification offers two options for students to earn a master's degree and Arizona teacher certification: a mild-moderate track and a severe-profound track.

In the Master of Education and Arizona Certification (MAC) program, students take classes at an ASU campus two nights a week and are required to complete daytime field experiences for at least two semesters. During the last semester of the program, students complete a full-time split student teaching experience: half the semester in a special education classroom and the other half in an elementary classroom. Students in the MAC program receive dual Arizona teacher certification in the following teaching certificates:
Mild-Moderate Disabilities Special Education, K-12 and Elementary Education, grades 1-8. The mild to moderate areas include forms of emotional, behavioral, learning, and orthopedic disabilities as well as intellectual disabilities and other health impairments.

The Induction, Master of Education and Arizona Certification (InMAC) program provides an alternative pathway to the Arizona teacher certification Mild-Moderate Disabilities Special Education, K-12, for full-time teachers on the teaching intern certificate. To qualify, individuals must secure a full-time teaching position. The InMAC program also features a partnership with Teach For America. Participants take classes one night per week.

**At a Glance**

- **College/School:** Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus, Polytechnic campus, Tempe campus, West campus

**Degree Requirements**

33 credit hours including the required applied project course (SPE 593)

**Required Core (12 credit hours)**

- EED 537 Mathematics Methods and Assessment (3)
- SPE 501 Introduction to Research and Evaluation in Education (3)
- SPE 538 Language and Literacy I (3)
- SPE 575 Survey, Issues and Foundations for the Exceptional Student (3)

**Track (18 credit hours)**

- **Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)**
  - SPE 593 Applied Project (3)

**Additional Curriculum Information**

Students choose either the mild-moderate track, which has the options of the Masters and Arizona Certification (MAC) or Induction, Masters and Arizona Certification (InMAC) pathways; or the severe-profound track. Please note that students will take additional coursework for certification.

The applied project is completed during the student teaching or apprentice teaching experience.
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, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (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. three letters of recommendation
4. personal statement
5. resume
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

The letters of recommendation should be from individuals who can speak to the applicant's potential for success in a graduate program.

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

GRE scores are not required for admission.

Contact Information

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