Special Education and Elementary Education, BAE

Moment by moment, day by day and person by person, educators ignite minds and strengthen communities. Programs at Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College offer a blend of instruction and professional experiences that prepare you to ask the right questions, navigate uncertainty and make a difference.

Program Description

Special educators make a difference in the lives of children and families. They are curious about how people learn and develop throughout their lifespan. A special education degree prepares students to understand human diversity, communicate effectively and develop problem-solving skills that support their success and that of others.

The BAE in special education and elementary education prepares teachers to work with all students in inclusive settings. Since the general education classroom is a viable placement option for many students with mild and moderate learning and behavioral disabilities, teacher candidates learn to use evidence-based practices that promote students' success with general education content, including high leverage practices in literacy, math, sciences and social studies. They develop adaptive techniques for students with disabilities and learn to use instructional and assistive technologies to facilitate success in the general education curriculum. Since special educators work within collaborative partnerships that promote inclusive practices, these skills are emphasized throughout the professional preparation sequence, with additional training in interpersonal communication and problem-solving skills.

The special education and elementary education program is clinically embedded during the junior and senior years. It provides teacher candidates with multiple opportunities to work directly with children and youth to practice what is learned during coursework in authentic settings. During the junior year, teacher candidates intern in classrooms serving students with special needs. The residency is a full-time, two-semester experience. Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College works with school partners to form students into teams of three or four residents or interns who work across classrooms, working together and working under the supervision of a certified lead teacher in the school. This intensive, hands-on model of teacher preparation creates highly sought-after graduates.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
- **Location:** Polytechnic campus, Tempe campus, West campus, ASU@The Gila Valley, ASU@Yuma
- **Additional Program Fee:** No
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
- **Math Intensity:** General

Required Courses (Major Map)

- [2020 - 2021 Major Map](#)
- [Major Map (Archives)](#)

Admission Requirements

**General University Admission Requirements:**

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

[Freshman] [Transfer] [International] [Readmission]

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to [https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request](https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request) for information about how to change a major to this program.
Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the Transfer Map search to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

Future elementary school teachers must learn to create an inclusive classroom and they can do this by expanding their horizons through study abroad. They explore how K-12 schooling works in countries that are leaders in education and conduct comparative research. Students can make a difference in a community by volunteering at schools and engaging in local educational programs through service-learning programs. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

National and state studies report the projected need in the next five to 10 years will be high for special education teachers. Graduates of the program are eligible to teach in elementary education grades K-8 and K-12 for the following high-incidence disabilities:

- emotional disorders
- intellectual disabilities (mild or moderate)
- orthopedic impairments
- other health impairments
- specific learning disabilities

Graduates can teach in a variety of inclusive educational settings, including public, charter and private schools, as well as nontraditional settings (juvenile system, children's hospital, etc.).
Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adapted Physical Education Teacher</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>$54,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Program Director</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>$92,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Special Education Teacher</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>$58,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Teacher</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>$57,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Special Education Teacher</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>$60,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School Special Education Teacher</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>$59,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School Teacher</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$57,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Director</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>$46,890</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preschool Special Education Teacher</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>$53,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Principal</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>$94,390</td>
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</tbody>
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* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook  🌿 Green Occupation

**Contact Information**

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