Special Education and Elementary Education, BAE

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 program 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. This certification program 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 senior year residency is
a full-time, two-semester student teaching apprenticeship. Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College faculty and highly qualified mentor teachers from partner school districts and charter schools collaboratively coach interns and student teachers during these clinical experiences. 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)

[2019 - 2020 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 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

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. 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>
</table>

* 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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