



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVANCED STUDIES

Program Description

This program is designed for students who have an undergraduate degree in special education, have a special education endorsement on their teaching license, or who wish to pursue advanced studies in special education but do not wish to teach P-12 special education.

Students studying for this degree must have taken the following prerequisite courses within six years of beginning the master's program: EDSP 204 or SPED 540, EDSP 301, EDSP 302, EDSP 303, EDSP 461, EDSP 405, and RD 417 or equivalents.

Many of the courses in this program are offered online or in the evening allowing for flexible completion of the program.

Careers: What can you do with a degree in Special Education—Advanced Studies?

This degree prepares students to teach in a categorical or cross-categorical area of special education, advance toward administrative positions, pursue positions in related fields, do research in special education, or pursue a doctoral degree.

Some of our recent graduates responded to a Graduate Data survey taken 9 months after graduation. Of the 18 graduates who did respond to the survey, 16 or 89% found employment in their field of study. They reported an average salary of \$48,530.

Admission Criteria

1. Undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0
2. Graduate GPA (if applicable) of at least 3.0
3. Standardized graduate admission test (GRE)

Admission Procedure

1. Complete Graduate Student Application
2. Submit Official Transcripts
3. Payment of Nonrefundable \$40 Application Fee
4. Submit Admission Test Scores – GRE

Total minimum credits required for degree: **33**

Online? **Mostly** Evening? **Yes**

Program length (approximate): **If you take a full load of 9 credits per semester, you could finish this program in about 5 semesters.**



SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVANCED STUDIES

Financial Aid, Scholarships, and Assistantships

Graduate students who wish to apply for financial assistance must be enrolled in a graduate degree, certificate, or endorsement program for at least 6 credits for half-time aid or 9 credits for full-time aid. Non-degree graduate students are not eligible for financial aid. To apply for financial aid, a student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application at www.fafsa.ed.gov. March 1 is the priority deadline.

There are many types of aid available: Loans, Graduate Assistantships and Partial Tuition Credits, and Scholarships. Please see our website for further information, applications, and listings of job descriptions for assistantships: www.msubillings.edu/grad/

Campus Tuition

Course Credit	Resident	Non-Resident
3	1,011.92	2,606.78
6	1,768.54	4,985.26
9	2,718.36	7,502.94
12 & Up	3,435.48	9,814.92

Online Tuition

Course Credit	Resident	Non-Resident
3	937.92	1,632.84
6	1,685.04	3,074.88
9	2,521.36	4,606.12
12 & Up	3,238.48	6,018.16

Tuition is subject to change by the Board of Regents of Higher Education.

Contact Us

Please contact the Office of Graduate Studies for information about programs, admission requirements, application forms, graduate assistantships, and other scholarship information. Our office is located in McMullen Hall room 200. The office is open from 8:00 to 5:00 (MST) Monday through Friday. Contact us with any questions you may have. We look forward to visiting with you.

David Sullivan, Counselor
(406) 657-2053
dsullivan@msubillings.edu

Administrative Support
(406) 657-2238
gradstudies@msubillings.edu



Program Structure

I. Professional Core (6 credits)

	Credits
EDF 501 Research Design and Interpretation OR	
SPED 502 Research in Special Programs.....	3
EDF 530 Advanced Human Development and Learning.....	3

II. Professional Specialization (18 credits)

SPED 510 Professional and Legal Issues in Special Education.....	3
SPED 530 Curricular Adaptations for Special Programs.....	3
SPED 551 Assessment and Program Planning for Special Populations.....	3
SPED 574 Data-Based Instruction.....	3
SPED 600 Facilitating Positive Behaviors in the Classroom Environment	3
SPED 650 Current Practices for Students with Disabilities.....	3

III. Professional Practice (9 credits)

SPED 590 Internship.....	3
<i>Choose two of the following</i>	
SPED 503 Assistive Technology*	3
SPED 504 Collaborative Supports in Educational Settings*	3
SPED 520 Applied Behavioral Analysis*	3
SPED 580 Autism Spectrum Disorders: Characteristics and Interventions*	3
OR	
SPED 599 Thesis.....	6
_____with one of the above*	3

Total minimum credits required for degree 33