

4. Curriculum Contract



**Master of Arts in Teaching - Special Education  
Initial Certification: Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12) WKU  
#0456 EPSB #124 (#184 Option 6)**

<b>PROGRAM DESCRIPTION</b>		
<p>This Special Education initial certification program in Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12), which will lead to a Master of Arts in Teaching, is for individuals who are seeking initial certification in LBD (P-12) and are not currently employed as a teacher of students with Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12).</p> <p><i>This option is for those individuals with no prior teacher certification in any area.</i></p> <p>To be eligible to be recommended for teacher certification, students must document that they have receive passing score(s) on the required Praxis II examination(s).</p> <p><i>NOTE: Students who have not had an introductory-level special education course within the past ten years must complete SPED 516 The Exceptional Child Perspectives and Issues, as a deficiency, prior to enrollment in any of the MAT courses for special education.</i></p>		
<b>COURSE CATEGORY</b>	<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION LBD (P-12) REQUIRED COURSES</b>	<b>Hrs.</b>
CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT	EDU 502: Positive Learning Environment (3 hrs.)	3
TRANSITION	SPED 517: Transition Services and Programs for Individuals with Disabilities (3 hrs.)	3
LAW	SPED 630: Special Education Law and Finance (3 hrs.)	3
SOCIAL SKILLS AND BEHAVIORAL PROGRAMMING	SPED 618: Social Skills Instruction & Behavioral Programming for Students with Disabilities (3 hrs.)	3
INTERNSHIP	<p>SPED 590 Advanced Internship in Special Education (6 hrs.)</p> <p><i>This course should be taken as the final capstone course in the program.</i></p> <p><i>Students must have a passing score on the appropriate Praxis II test required by the state for certification prior to enrolling in this course.</i></p> <p>NOTE: Students currently teaching in a classroom serving students with LBD (P- 12) may use their current teaching position to meet this requirement with advisor approval. Students not currently teaching IN A CLASSROOM SERVING STUDENTS WITH LBD (P-12) must complete an internship experience, within the WKU service region, that is equivalent to state requirements for student teaching in a classroom serving students with Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12).</p>	6
INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL	SPED 515: Introduction to Special Education (3 hrs.)	3

EDUCATION		
ASSESSMENT	SPED 530: Advanced Assessment of Students with Disabilities in General Education (3 hrs.)	3
LITERACY COMPONENT	LTCY 519: Foundations of Reading Instruction (3 hrs.)	3
LITERACY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	SPED 525: Intervention Support for Students with Dyslexia and Other Reading Disabilities (3 hrs.)	3
INTENSIVE INTERVENTION	SPED 531: Data-Based Individualization in Special Education (3 hrs.)	3
TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS		33 hrs.

**Delineation of Unit/Program Transition Points – Initial Preparation**

<b>Transition Point 1: Admission to MAT LBD for Initial Certification Preparation Programs</b>			
<b>Data Reviewed</b>	<b>Minimal Criteria for Admission/Continuation</b>	<b>Review Cycle</b>	<b>Reviewed By</b>
<u>Unit Level Data:</u>		Each Month	Professional Education Council
☐ Admission Application	☐ Completion of application		
☐ baccalaureate degree	☐ Documentation of completion of baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution		
☐ Recommendation for admission following a transcript review by an MAT advisor associated with the certification area sought (deficiencies may require applicant to take additional undergraduate courses)	☐ MAT advisor approval		
☐ Letter of application including professional goals	☐ Completion and submission of letter including professional goals		
☐ GPA	☐ Cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or above (counting all course work, undergraduate and graduate) OR a GPA of 3.0 in the last 30 hours of coursework (counting all course work, undergraduate and graduate).		
☐ Test Scores – State minimum passing scores for GRE or CASE for admission to the professional education unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State minimum required for GRE or CASE qualifying scores for admission to the professional education unit.</li> <li>• (demonstrates Critical Thinking and Communication Skills)</li> </ul>		
☐ Admission requirements for teacher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptance to graduate studies:</li> <li>• 3 positive references (demonstrates their dispositions for teaching indicating their Creativity and Collaboration skills)</li> <li>• physical (including TB test)</li> <li>• successful KY criminal background check,</li> <li>• signed code of ethics</li> </ul>		
<b>Transition Point 2: Admission to Final Experience (e.g., Internship, Student Teaching, Clinical Practice, Culminating Assessment)</b>			

Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria for Continuation	Review Cycle	Reviewed By
<u>Unit Level Data:</u>			
☐ GPA	☐ 3.0 overall as per Graduate Studies Policy for all graduate programs	Each Semester	Professional Education Council
☐ Completion of required field hours	☐ At least 200 hours documented based on requirements of 16 KAR 5:040		
☐ Semester Hours Completed	☐ 30 hours		
☐ Dispositions Scores	☐ All dispositions average “At Standard” (3+)		
☐ Key Assessment Scores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.0+ overall</li> <li>• 2.0+ per Kentucky Teacher Standard measured</li> </ul>		
☐ GPA	☐ 3.0 overall as per Graduate Studies Policy for all graduate programs		
☐ Praxis II	☐ Passing Score on the Praxis II Test		
<b>Transition Point 3: Program Exit</b>			
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria for Exit	Review Cycle	Reviewed By
<u>Unit Level Data:</u>			
☐ Advanced Internship Grade (SPED 590)	☐ C or higher - based on Teacher Work Sample holistic score of 2+ and 2.0+ Kentucky Teacher Standard Measured	Each Semester	Office of Teacher Services

**To be recommended for initial certification, an applicant must document:**

- Completion of an approved teacher preparation program in each desired certification area;
- Passing Scores on the appropriate PRAXIS II exams (e.g., Content, PLT) or other assessments required for each desired certification area;
- Achievement of at least a 3.0 GPA overall in each major and minor, and in professional education courses; ☐ Attainment of at least a “C” in all professional education courses, including SPED 590.



**Master of Arts in Teaching – Option 6/Alternative Route  
Special Education Initial Certification: Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12)  
WKU #0456 EPSB Option 6 #184**

<b>PROGRAM DESCRIPTION</b>		
<p>This Special Education initial certification program in Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12), which will lead to a Master of Arts in Teaching, is for individuals who are seeking initial certification in LBD (P-12) and are currently employed as a teacher of students with Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12).</p> <p><i>This option is for those individuals with no prior teacher certification in any area.</i></p> <p>To be eligible to be recommended for teacher certification, students must document that they have receive passing score(s) on the required Praxis II examination(s).</p> <p><i>NOTE: Students who have not had an introductory-level special education course within the past ten years must complete SPED 516 The Exceptional Child Perspectives and Issues, as a deficiency, prior to enrollment in any of the MAT courses for special education.</i></p>		
<b>COURSE CATEGORY</b>	<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION LBD (P-12) REQUIRED COURSES</b>	
INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION	SPED 515: EDUCATION OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN (3 HRS)	3
EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY	LME 535: SURVEY OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PRACTICES (3 HRS)	3
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY	PSY 510: ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY (3 HRS)	3
DIVERSITY AND CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT	SPED 518: SEMINAR:CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (3 HRS)	3
ASSESSMENT	SPED 530: ADVANCED ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES (3 HRS)	3
LITERACY COMPONENT	LTCY 519: FOUNDATIONS OF READING INSTRUCTION (3 HRS)	3
RESEARCH SKILLS	SPED 534: RESEARCH IN EXCEPTIONAL CHILD EDUCATION (3 HRS)	3
CONTENT METHODS COURSE	SPED 533: SEMINAR: CURRICULUM FOR LEARNING AND BEHAVIOR DISORDERS (P-12) (3 HRS)	3
PROGRAM SPECIFIC ELECTIVES	SPED 531: ADVANCED PRESCRIPTIVE TEACHING (3 HRS)	3
	<p><i>Students must be admitted to the professional education unit before enrolling in this course.</i></p> <p>SPED 630: SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW AND FINANCE (3 HRS)</p>	3

<p>INTERNSHIP</p>	<p>SPED 590 ADVANCED INTERNSHIP IN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION (6 HRS) <i>This course should be taken as the final capstone course in the program.</i></p> <p><i>Students must have a passing score on the appropriate Praxis II test required by the state for certification prior to enrolling in this course.</i></p> <p>NOTE: Students currently teaching in a classroom serving students with LBD (P- 12) may use their current teaching position to meet this requirement with advisor approval. Students not currently teaching IN A CLASSROOM SERVING STUDENTS WITH LBD (P-12) must complete an internship experience, within the WKU service region, that is equivalent to state requirements for student</p>	<p>6</p>
	<p>teaching in a classroom serving students with Learning and Behavior Disorders (P-12).</p>	
<p>TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS</p>		<p>36 HOURS</p>

**Delineation of Unit/Program Transition Points – Initial Preparation**

<b>Transition Point 1: Admission to MAT LBD for Initial Certification Preparation Programs</b>			
<b>Data Reviewed</b>	<b>Minimal Criteria for Admission/Continuation</b>	<b>Review Cycle</b>	<b>Reviewed By</b>
<u>Unit Level Data:</u>		Each Month	Professional Education Council
☐ Admission Application	☐ Completion of application		
☐ Completion of baccalaureate degree	☐ Documentation of completion of baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution		
☐ Recommendation for admission following a transcript review by an MAT advisor associated with the certification area sought (deficiencies may require applicant to take additional undergraduate courses)	☐ MAT advisor approval		
☐ Letter of application including professional goals	☐ Completion and submission of letter including professional goals		
☐ GPA	☐ Cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or above (counting all course work, undergraduate and graduate) OR a GPA of 3.0 in the last 30 hours of coursework (counting all course work, undergraduate and graduate).		
☐ Test Scores – State minimum passing scores for GRE or CASE for admission to the professional education unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State minimum required for GRE or CASE qualifying scores for admission to the professional education unit.</li> <li>• (demonstrates Critical Thinking and Communication Skills)</li> </ul>		
☐ Admission requirements for teacher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acceptance to graduate studies:</li> <li>• 3 positive references (demonstrates their dispositions for teaching indicating their Creativity and Collaboration skills)</li> <li>• physical (including TB test)</li> <li>• successful KY criminal background check,</li> <li>• signed code of ethics</li> </ul>		
<b>Transition Point 2: Admission to Final Experience (e.g., Internship, Student Teaching, Clinical Practice, Culminating Assessment)</b>			

Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria for Continuation	Review Cycle	Reviewed By
<u>Unit Level Data:</u>		Each Semester	Professional Education Council
☐ GPA	☐ 3.0 overall as per Graduate Studies Policy for all graduate programs		
☐ Semester Hours Completed	☐ 30 hours		
☐ Dispositions Scores	☐ All dispositions average “At Standard” (3+)		
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☐ GPA	☐ 3.0 overall as per Graduate Studies Policy for all graduate programs		
☐ Praxis II	☐ Passing Score on the Praxis II Test		
<b>Transition Point 3: Program Exit</b>			
Data Reviewed	Minimal Criteria for Exit	Review Cycle	Reviewed By
<u>Unit Level Data:</u>		Each Semester	Office of Teacher Services
☐ Advanced Internship Grade (SPED 590)	☐ C or higher - based on Teacher Work Sample holistic score of 2+ and 2.0+ Kentucky Teacher Standard Measured		

**To be recommended for initial certification, an applicant must document:**

- Completion of an approved teacher preparation program in each desired certification area;
- Passing Scores on the appropriate PRAXIS II exams (e.g., Content, PLT) or other assessments required for each desired certification area;
- Achievement of at least a 3.0 GPA overall in each major and minor, and in professional education courses; ☐ Attainment of at least a “C” in all professional education courses, including SPED 590.