

# CBC



## THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

### CURRICULUM AND BULLETIN CHANGES

THE GRAD SCHOOL PREFERS TYPED DOCUMENTS. ENTER (TYPE) INFORMATION IN FORM AND THEN PRINT DOCUMENT.

Mail to:  
The Graduate School  
901 Sumter St. #304  
Columbia, SC 29208

1. Requestor fills in form, prints form and has department chair and academic dean sign part two of form.
2. Requestor e-mails form in PDF and applicable attachment(s) (in MS Word) to gradcurr@mailbox.sc.edu.
3. Requestor then mails signed original copy of part two of the form to The Graduate School.

Fax to:  
803-777-2972

Department/College: Special Education / Educational Studies / College of Education



**Graduate**



**Curriculum Change. List program involved, and justification for the change.**

M.Ed. in Special Education; see attached



**Graduate/Undergraduate *Bulletin* Change.**

Attach the proposed wording change. The changes must be shown exactly as they are to appear in the *Bulletin*. A two-column format showing both the old wording (on the left) and the new wording (on the right) is required. Please indicate the current page(s) of the *Bulletin* where the old wording appears.

Requested Effective Term for addition to database. 

Term	Year
Fall	2009

Contact Person: Erik Dragow

Phone: 7-8898

Email: drasgow@mailbox.sc.edu

Endorsements:

Department Chair: 

Date: 2/24/09

Academic Dean: 

Date: 3-16-09

## Justification for Changes in the Special Education M.Ed. Program

1. Deleted redundant information from the Admission Section list of requirements that is also included in the Exams and Certification Section list of requirements.
2. Changed total program course credits from 39 to 36 hours by eliminating one elective. The total number of required hours is still consistent with other M.Ed. programs in special education at other major universities.
3. Made the following course changes:
  - a. Professional Core Requirements: Deleted EDEX 792 (Issues in Special Education) because faculty analysis of student feedback and performance indicated that contemporary issues in special education would be more effectively addressed by being embedded in other required courses. Added EDEX 715 (Applied Behavior Analysis in Special Education) to place greater emphasis on best-practices evidence-based procedures in the field of special education.
  - b. Early Childhood Special Education: Deleted EDEX 785 (Language Impairment in Children) because the course content has been embedded in another course (EDEX 615; Curriculum and Language Instruction for Students with Severe and Multiple Disabilities). Students in this program had 6 hours of electives and an approved course. Now they will have only 3 hours of electives. Added EDEX 713P (Practicum in Instruction of Exceptional Children I) because faculty analysis of student feedback indicates that students would benefit from additional applied experience.
  - c. Emotional Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, and Mental Retardation: Added EDEX 691 (Inclusion: Co-Teaching Students with Mild Disabilities) because it better prepares our students for the current inclusive practices in schools.
  - d. Severe and Multiple Disabilities: Deleted EDEX 785 (Language Impairment in Children) because the course content has been embedded in another course (EDEX 615; Curriculum and Language Instruction for Students with Severe and Multiple Disabilities). Added EDEX 717 because it enables our students to meet requirements leading toward national certification in behavior analysis.
  - e. Electives: Changed the number of electives for each area to correspond to the overall required hours.

**Special Education (M.Ed.)**

The M.Ed. program in special education is designed for certified teachers who are seeking advanced certification in special education. The program includes 150 hours of practicum experience.

**Admission**

1. To be considered for admission all of the following materials must be on file in The Graduate School, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, by October 1 (spring or summer admission) or March 1 (summer or fall admission).

- transcripts of all college and university credits
- two letters of recommendation from former professors or work supervisors in the field of education
- a completed graduate school application
- a letter of intent for proposed study in special education
- Graduate Record Examination (verbal and quantitative sections) or Miller Analogies Test scores, taken within five years of application date
- evidence of initial certification
- maintain an average grade of B or better on all courses taken for graduate credit. Grades of C+ or lower on any 12 hours of graduate work at the University will disqualify a student for a graduate degree from the College of Education.
- pass a comprehensive examination in the area of specialization.

2. Upon verification of the above requirements, the applicant will interview with the Programs in Special Education Committee and participate in an extemporaneous writing sample.

3. Acceptance by The Graduate School and the programs in special education is based on the evaluation of the applicant's total academic profile by two admissions committee members. The committee members evaluate the applicant's letters of recommendation, GPA, test scores, writing sample, and interview and then make an admissions recommendation

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based on their evaluation.

### Examinations and Certification

Students must:

- maintain an average grade of **B** or better on all courses taken for graduate credit. Grades of **C+** or lower on any 12 hours of graduate work at the University will disqualify a student for a graduate degree from the College of Education.
- pass a comprehensive examination in the area of specialization.

*Note: The M.Ed. program is not designed for initial teacher certification. Students wishing to use the M.Ed. program to add certification in an area of special education to their existing teaching certificates must meet requirements as mandated by the S.C. Department of Education. Further information may be obtained from the S.C. Department of Education or from the College of Education's Office of Students Affairs.*

#### 1. Prerequisite Course: EDEX 523

**Note:** EDEX 523 does not count toward the 39 hours required for the M.Ed. degree.

#### 2. Professional Core Requirements: 18 hours

(Required for all M.Ed. students) EDRM 700, EDEX 640, 716, 750, 790, and 792

#### 3. Specialization Area Requirements: 12-18 hours (choose one area of specialization)

**A. Early Childhood Special Education** (18 hours): EDEX 530, 630, 714P, 785, 891P, and an approved course

**B. Emotional Disabilities** (12 hours): EDEX 632, 714B, 784, and 891B

**C. Learning Disabilities** (12 hours): EDEX 531, 616, 714L, and 891L

**D. Mental Retardation** (12 hours): EDEX 619, 712, 714M, and 891M

**E. Severe and Multiple Disabilities** (18 hours): EDEX 610, 615, 619, 701, 714M, and 785

based on their evaluation.

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**Note:** EDEX 523 does not count toward the 39 hours required for the M.Ed. degree.

#### 2. Professional Core Requirements: 18 hours

(Required for all M.Ed. students) EDRM 700, EDEX 640, 715, 716, 750, and 790. and ~~792~~

#### 3. Specialization Area Requirements: ~~12~~ 15-18 hours (choose one area of specialization)

**A. Early Childhood Special Education** (~~18~~ 15 hours): EDEX 530, 630, 713P, 714P, ~~785~~, and 891P, and an approved course

**B. Emotional Disabilities** (15 hours): EDEX 632, 691, 714B, 784, and 891B

**C. Learning Disabilities** (15 hours): EDEX 531, 616, 691, 714L, and 891L

**D. Mental Retardation** (15 hours): EDEX 619, 691, 712, and 714M, and 891M

**E. Severe and Multiple Disabilities** (18 hours): EDEX 610, 615, 619, 701, 714M, and 717 ~~785~~

**4. Electives (3-9 hours):** 3 hours in early childhood special education and severe and multiple disabilities; 9 hours in all other areas. Electives may include but are not limited to EDEX 580, 701, 715, 791, and 785 and are selected by advisement.

*Note: When selecting electives, keep in mind that students must take a majority of the 39 hours in the M.Ed. program at or above the 700 level.*

**4. Electives (3-9 hours) (0-3 hours):** 3 hours in ~~early childhood special education and severe and multiple disabilities; 9 hours in all other areas~~ all areas of specialization except for Severe and Multiple Disabilities. Electives may include but are not limited to EDEX 580, 701, 715, 791, and 785 and are selected by advisement.

*Note: When selecting electives, keep in mind that students must take a majority of the ~~36~~ 39 hours in the M.Ed. program at or above the 700 level.*