



School of Education & Human Development

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

MA Special Education with Special Education Generalist (Ages 5-21) Endorsement

The MA Special Education with Special Education Generalist Endorsement is designed for currently licensed teachers seeking career advancement and to provide the expertise needed to work effectively with students with special needs and diverse backgrounds. The program is fully accredited by the Colorado Department of Education and guided by the [Council for Exceptional Children's Professional Preparation Standards](#).

CU Denver provides approved program recommendation, but endorsement is granted by the state of Colorado. State requirements vary and may include teaching experience and exams in addition to a valid teaching credential. Students should consult with the Colorado Department of Education (http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/licensure_authorization_landing) or if you're applying for endorsement in another state, see <https://education.ucdenver.edu/academic-services/student-resources/teacher-licensure>

Students are responsible for reviewing the CU Denver Special Education Resources website regularly, including the Handbook and SPED course rotation: <https://education.ucdenver.edu/academic-services/student-resources/graduate/special-education>
SPED Courses may be offered in online, hybrid, remote, or face-to-face formats. SPED course formats can vary by semester and some courses are offered only once per year.

Note: It is advisable to reach out to your Faculty Advisor at the beginning of your program (to answer initial questions) and to check in with them at the middle/end of your program (to confirm your progress.)

| Courses | Credits | Semester Completed |
|---|---------|--------------------|
| A) Special Education (21-26 hours - <i>Complete in any order unless otherwise noted</i>) | | |
| SPED 5030: Frameworks for Understanding (dis)Ability in Contemporary Classrooms <i>If SPED 4030 or 5030 was completed via a different SEHD program, substitute with any SEHD course 5000-level or higher with Faculty Advisor approval</i> | 3 | |
| SPED 5740: Intersections of Literacy, Culture, & Exceptionality | 3 | |
| SPED 5010: Intentional Interventions for Exceptional Learners | 3 | |
| SPED 5151: Slashing Stigmas: Promoting Positive Behaviors | 3 | |
| SPED 5300: Family, Professional, and Community Collaboration | 3 | |
| SPED 5780: Literacy Intervention for Exceptional Learners | 3 | |
| SPED 5140: Assessment: Inquiry, Instruction, & Intervention (<i>take after completion of at least 9 semester hours of SPED coursework</i>) | 3 | |
| If internship is required (<i>based upon faculty review from your admission application of your teaching experience & classroom placements</i>): SPED 5932: Internship & Site Seminar (2 credits, ~128 Hours or 16 days); SPED 5933: Internship & Site Seminar (3 credits, ~192 Hours or 24 days) | (2-5) | |
| B) Advanced Study (9 hours – <i>Complete towards the end of the program</i>) | | |
| SPED 5500: Transition and Secondary Issues in Special Education | 3 | |
| RSEM 5080: Research in Schools OR advisor approval for any other 5000-level RSEM course | 3 | |
| SPED 5401: Advanced Seminar (<i>to be taken in your final Spring semester</i>) | 3 | |
| Additional pre-requisite courses, if necessary (<i>based upon faculty review from your admission application of your teaching experience & classroom placements</i>) | varies | |
| Total Credit Hours | | 30-35 |



Content Licensure Exam Requirements and Policy

Information about the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Praxis requirements for the Special Education Generalist Endorsement, can be found on this page by scrolling down to “Special Education Generalist (ages 5-21)”:

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprof/endorsementrequirements>

For the Special Education Generalist Endorsement, CDE requires passing scores on each Praxis content exam below:

- **PRAXIS 5354 “Special Education Core Knowledge & Applications”**
- **PRAXIS 5901 “Three Subject Bundle—Mathematics, Social Studies and Science” series** (as outlined below; may be waived with a *valid* Colorado teacher license/elementary endorsement)
 - Science 5905 - *or 5005 also accepted (same exam, different number)*
 - Social Studies 5904 – *or 5004 also accepted (same exam, different number)*
 - Mathematics 5903 – *or 5003 also accepted (same exam, different number)*
- **PRAXIS 5205 “Teaching Reading: Elementary”**

Information about Praxis exams can be found at <https://praxis.ets.org/>

If you’re required to complete SPED 5923 and/or SPED 5933 internships, the [Praxis Exam - 5354](#) “Special Education Core Knowledge & Applications” must be passed prior to final internship. Information about preparing for the PRAXIS 5354 can be found at <https://praxis.ets.org/test/5354.html>. A Study Guide for the Exam is available through SEHD Student Success Center: sehdsuccesscenter@ucdenver.edu. If the special education candidate has not passed the appropriate content exam AND submitted passing scores within 20 days of the final semester of internships beginning, the candidate will have to delay their final semester of internships and connected courses until the exam has been passed. Please be aware that the exam is offered a few times per year and requires advance registration. Also be aware that it typically takes 4-6 weeks to receive the results. Please see the table below for more detailed information. If you need accommodations for the exam, please request those immediately from ETS. CU Denver Disability Resources & Services can support you as you navigate accommodations: <https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/disability-resources-and-services>

Applying for your Special Education Generalist Endorsement through the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Once you have completed your program in the School of Education & Human Development, you will need to assemble documents to apply for your Special Education Generalist endorsement through the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). Instructions for applying for your endorsement through CDE can be found at <https://education.ucdenver.edu/academic-services/student-resources/teacher-licensure>