

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Special Education (SPED) track in the Education and Human Development (EDHD) major prepares students to address the exceptional learning needs of individuals ages five to 21. The Special Education track combines cutting-edge research with real classroom experiences. Students gain critical knowledge and interventions to teach learners with exceptional learning needs. The 126-credit hour licensure track fulfill all requirements for a license to work with children ages five to 21 in Colorado's school districts. This track is designed to enhance your ability to effectively support diverse, urban students with disabilities in K-12 public schools and alternative settings.

A unique feature of this pathway is that you will be able to add the Colorado Department of Education's elementary endorsement to your credentials. Essentially, you will leave this program with both the Special Education License and Elementary Education Endorsement through the Colorado Department of Education. This means you are prepared to teach Special Education AND K-6, making you highly employable and desirable to schools!

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

The School of Education & Human Development (SEHD) requires all students to meet with their Academic Advisor several times a year to develop and learn more about their own individualized plan of study.

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[www.ucdenver.edu/education](http://www.ucdenver.edu/education)

## GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

To receive a bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado Denver, students must satisfy all of the requirements below, in addition to completing a Major and fulfilling all of their School or College requirements.

1. A minimum of 120 credit hours is required to graduate from CU Denver with a bachelor's level degree.
2. A minimum 2.000 cumulative GPA is required for all University of Colorado coursework.
3. Satisfactory completion of the CU Denver Core Curriculum.

In addition to the general university graduation requirements listed above, all SEHD students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements:

1. Students must earn a final grade of at least a C (2.0) in major courses and a B- (2.7) or above in designated major courses and Professional Year Residency courses within the major. These courses/requirements must be repeated if the student fails to earn the grade required.
2. Students must complete required classroom-based field experiences.
3. Students must complete all program assessments and professional milestones as outlined in the Student Handbook. For teacher education licensure students, this includes passing the appropriate Praxis exam.
4. Students must complete all requirements associated with their SEHD major.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

**Students are responsible for meeting with the academic advisor in the School of Education & Human Development to confirm major requirements.** Students completing the Education and Human Development BA degree in Special Education (EDHD – Special Education) are required to complete the minimum program requirements below.

1. Students must complete a minimum of 126 semester hours for the EDHD Special Education Track.
2. Students must pass the appropriate Praxis Exams prior to beginning their final semester of their Professional Year. It is recommended students complete the exams in the year prior to their Professional Year.
3. Application to the last year of the program, the Professional Year Residency is required. After successfully completing all other Core, major, and elective courses, all students must apply for admission into the Professional Year. Requirements for admission include a 3.0 GPA, positive letters of recommendation, successful evaluations of earlier clinical experiences, and a successful interview. (Students with a lower GPA may be considered under certain conditions. Please see SEHD website.)
4. A minimum GPA of 2.0, grade of C or better, is required for all major courses applying to EDHD – Special Education requirements unless otherwise specified.
5. Students must complete and maintain a 3.0 minimum grade point average in Professional Year coursework to complete licensure requirements. Please see an advisor for more information on this requirement.
6. Transfer courses must be approved by faculty and/or advisor to apply to the major.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION (LICENSURE TRACK)

Bachelor of Arts in Education and Human Development (B.A.) – Catalog Year 2025 -2026

Courses	Credits	Notes
<b>* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *</b>		
<b>CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements</b>	<b>34 - 37</b>	<a href="#">CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements</a>
<b>EDHD – Special Education Requirements</b>	<b>57</b>	
INTE 2000 Digital Teaching and Learning	3	
Development Course: HDFR 1010 or HDFR 2110 or HDFR 3050	3	Choose one course
CLDE 2000 Foundations of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Edu	3	† Education Licensure Course
MTED 3040 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers	3	† Education Licensure Course
EDFN 4010 Social Foundations & Cultural Diversity in Urban Education	3	*Prerequisite: 27+ credit hours completed; † Education Licensure Course
SPED 4300 Family, Professional, and Community Collaboration	3	*Prerequisite: 57+ credit hours completed
SPED 4400 Universal Design for Learning (UDL)	3	*Prerequisite: 57+ credit hours completed
CLDE 4020 Responsive Classroom Communities	3	*Prerequisites: EDFN 4010, 40+ credit hours completed. † Education Licensure Course
SPED 4151 Slashing Stigmas: Promoting Positive Behaviors	3	
SPED 4500 Transition & Secondary Methods in SPED	3	Corequisite: EDHD 2930 or EDHD 3930
SPED 4780 Literacy Interventions in SPED	3	*Prerequisite: 40+ credit hours completed
EDFN 1000 Equity, Rights & Education or LCRT 2000 or LCRT 3815	3	Choose one course
<b>Clinical Field Experience#1: Community-Based</b>		§ Clinical Field Experience Block
EDHD 1930 Community Based Field Experience & Seminar	3	† Education Licensure Course; § Clinical Field Experience Block
<b>Clinical Field Experience Block #2: Learning &amp; Development</b>		*Prerequisites: EDHD 1930; § Clinical Field Experience Block
EDHD 2930 Learning & Development Field Experience & Seminar	3	† Education Licensure Course. § Clinical Field Experience Block
LCRT 3720 Introduction to Writing Development & Teaching	3	§ Clinical Field Experience Block
LCRT 4710 Primary Literacy for Diverse Learners Pre K - 3rd Grade	3	§ Clinical Field Experience Block
<b>Clinical Field Experience Block #3: Diverse Learners</b>		*Prerequisites: EDHD 2930; § Clinical Field Experience Block
EDHD 3930 Diverse Learners Field Experience & Seminar	3	† Education Licensure Course; § Clinical Field Experience Block
SPED 4740 Intersection of Literacy, Culture & Exceptionality or CLDE 3830 Cult. & Ling. Responsive Teaching in STEM	3	§ Clinical Field Experience Block
SPED 4030 Understanding (dis)Ability in Contemporary Classrooms	3	† Education Licensure Course; § Clinical Field Experience Block
<b>Estimated General Electives</b>	<b>7 - 10</b>	General Elective credits will vary; consult with advisor
<b>Professional Year Courses</b>	<b>28</b>	Professional Year (separate admission required; see note below)
LCRT 4000 Elementary Literacy Instruction & Assessment PK-2	3	† Education Licensure Course; ‡ CLDE Endorsement Course.    Professional Year
MTED 4002 Elementary Mathematics Teaching I	3	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
MTED 4003 Elementary Mathematics Teaching II	3	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
SPED 4140 Assessment, Inquiry, Instruction & Intervention	3	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
UEDU 4040 Planning for Learning	3	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
SPED 4010 Intentional Interventions for Except Learners	3	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
UEDU 4931 Internship & Learning Community I	2	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
UEDU 4932 Internship & Learning Community II	2	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
UEDU 4933 Internship & Learning Community III	6	† Education Licensure Course;    Professional Year
<b>Total Program Hours:</b>	<b>126</b>	

† Education Licensure Course: requires minimum grade of B- or higher

§ Clinical Field Experience Block:

- All courses in a clinical field experience block must be taken together, in the same semester
- Field experience paperwork deadlines:
  - Fall placement = 4/1 Priority deadline: 4/15 Final deadline
  - Spring placement = 11/1 Priority deadline; 11/15 Final deadline

|| Professional Year: Admission to Professional Year required

- Requirements for admission to Professional Year include:
  - A minimum GPA of 3.0 in major coursework
  - Successful completion of all other coursework (including Core, major, and elective requirements)
  - Successful completion of the application and interview process
  - Taking the appropriate Praxis exams (students *must* pass the Praxis prior to beginning their final semester)
- Professional Year application deadlines:
  - Fall start = 2/15 deadline
  - Spring start = 10/1 deadline

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors. Consult with an academic advisor to develop an individualized plan of study. **Students deviating from this plan must fulfill course prerequisites and must meet with the academic advisor in their department to confirm degree requirements.**

*\*Note: Many required courses are also available in summer semesters.*

Year One	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
	MTED 3040	3	CU Denver Core Math – MATH 1010 recommended	3
	CU Denver Core Arts	3	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab	4
	CLDE 2000 / SEHD Learning Community	3	EDFN 1000 or LCRT 2000 or LCRT 3815	3
	CU Denver Core Humanities	3	<i>Clinical Field Experience #1: Community-Based</i>	
	General Elective – UNIV 1110/ SEHD Learning Community	1	EDHD 1930	3
	Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours	16
Year Two	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	HDFR 1010	3	EDFN 4010	3
	INTE 2000	3	CU Denver Core Social Sciences	3
	CU Denver Core International Perspectives	3	<i>Clinical Field Experience Block #2: Learning &amp; Development</i>	
	CU Denver Core Behavioral Science	3	EDHD 2930	3
	CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science without lab	3	LCRT 3720	3
	Total Credit Hours	15	LCRT 4710	3
Year Three	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	SPED 4400	3	CLDE 4020	3
	General Elective	3	SPED 4151	3
	SPED 4500	3	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
	<i>Clinical Field Experience Block #3: Diverse Learners</i>		SPED 4300	3
	EDHD 3930	3	SPED 4780	3
	SPED 4740 or CLDE 3830	3	General Elective	3
	SPED 4030	3	Total Credit Hours	15
Year Four	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	LCRT 4000	3	MTED 4003	3
	UEDU 4040	3	SPED 4010	3
	MTED 4002	3	UEDU 4933	6
	SPED 4140	3		
	UEDU 4931	2		
	UEDU 4932	2		
	Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours	12

In the first semester of year three, take the appropriate Praxis exam. Students *must* pass required Praxis, if applicable, prior to beginning their final semester.  
In second semester of year three, apply for admission to Professional Year. Deadlines for Professional Year application are 2/15 for Fall start or 10/1 for Spring start.

After graduation, apply for a teaching license through the Colorado Department of Education.