

# Master of Education in **Special Education**

## Expand their opportunities

Chatham University's Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Special Education program is committed to producing compassionate, highly skilled educators that enrich the lives of students with disabilities and exceptional needs. The Master of Education in Special Education requires that students are already certified in another area (Pre-K through 4, middle grades, or a secondary area such as English, science, history, etc.). With content and competencies meeting and exceeding requirements for Pennsylvania Department of Education Special Education certification for grades PreK-8 and 7-12, this program is designed to complement and enhance your existing certification in another area.

[chatham.edu/medsed](http://chatham.edu/medsed)



# Master of Education in **Special Education**

The Master of Education in Special Education is a program within Chatham University's **SCHOOL OF ARTS, SCIENCE, AND BUSINESS**. Programs in the School of Arts, Science, and Business leverage Chatham's strengths in the liberal arts, business, communications, and the arts, and complement them with professional preparation that helps students prepare for their futures and the next steps in their professional and academic careers.

*The number of children and youth ages 3-21 receiving special education services was 6.4 million, or about 13 percent of all public school students, in 2012-13. Some 35 percent of students receiving special education services had specific learning disabilities. About 95 percent of school-age children and youth ages 6-21 who were served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 2012-13 were enrolled in regular schools.*

*U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Database.*

## **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Classroom instruction is held during evenings and weekends, convenient for working teachers as they develop enhanced skills and credentials.
- Through field experiences, you'll translate your instruction into practice while working in a real-world classroom under the guidance of Chatham faculty.
- A Special Education certification will not only make you more marketable in the education arena, but you can also use the degree as a springboard to a doctoral program or academic research.

**“The need for expertly trained, certified special education teachers has never been greater. Chatham’s graduate program produces superb practitioners in this critical field who are prepared to make their own contributions through teaching, research, or advanced study.”**

— KRISTIN HARTY, PH.D., *Education Department chair and graduate program director*

## SAMPLE COURSES

### M.Ed. In Special Education (PreK-8 Certification)

#### EDU634 Inclusion: Issues and Strategies

This course surveys practices of inclusion in education. It encompasses historical precedents, underlying philosophy, education theory, instructional strategies, and practical implications of implementation.

#### EDU644 Behavior Management in the Classroom

Students investigate the principles and systematic approaches used to identify and analyze problem management techniques, individual behavior and affective intervention strategies, and community-based support programs designed to address problem behaviors. Crisis intervention and conflict resolution are explored as strategies for confronting challenging behaviors.

### M.Ed. In Special Education (7-12 Certification)

#### EDU531 Assessment and Adaptation

Students investigate the assessment of individuals with mild to moderate disabilities. Topics include the fundamental principles of assessment tools and the social responsibility of professionals to exercise fairness and accuracy in the assessment process.

#### EDU671 Collaboration, Consultation, and Teamwork

This course focuses on developing effective collaboration skills with members of the school community, as well as the community at large, to provide a realistic and integrated program for all children. Students engage in a variety of group activities that respond to the need to analyze group dynamics and implement effective communication strategies.

► [chatham.edu/medsed/curriculum.cfm](http://chatham.edu/medsed/curriculum.cfm)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Chatham offers graduate assistantships and work-study positions that provide students with valuable experience and help reduce the cost of tuition in the form of tuition remission or paid compensation. A limited selection of additional program-specific aid such as fellowships, scholarships and tuition waivers are available for specific programs.

## LEARN MORE

[chatham.edu/medsed](http://chatham.edu/medsed)

Chatham University  
Office of Admission  
Woodland Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232  
800-837-1290 or 412-365-1825  
[gradadmission@chatham.edu](mailto:gradadmission@chatham.edu)

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university
- Overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale. (Probationary admission may be granted for applicants with a GPA of less than 3.0 who show promise through other achievements.)
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
- Resume
- Two letters of recommendation
- Admissions essay
- Current teaching certification in an area of elementary or secondary education

## **APPLICATION DEADLINES**

- Fall Recommended Deadline: July 1
- Spring Recommended Deadline: November 1

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▶ **Apply online at [chatham.edu/apply](https://chatham.edu/apply)**

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