

SPECIAL EDUCATION, BSE

The Bachelor of Science in Special Education is a degree for students who want to work with children and youth, particularly those with disabilities. Graduates of the program have almost 100% job placement, with opportunities in Wisconsin and nationwide.

Students pursuing Special Education can choose from three certification options, all completed in a four-semester sequence that includes coursework, field experiences, and starts each fall.

CERTIFICATION OPTIONS

SPECIAL EDUCATION CROSS-CATEGORICAL K-12 ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/EDUCATION/REHABILITATION-PSYCHOLOGY-SPECIAL-EDUCATION/SPECIAL-EDUCATION-BSE/SPECIAL-EDUCATION-SPECIAL-EDUCATION-CROSS-CATEGORICAL-K-12-BSE/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/rehabilitation-psychology-special-education/special-education-bse/special-education-special-education-cross-categorical-k-12-bse/))

This program prepares educators to serve as resources and advocates for individuals with disabilities and their families. Graduates are equipped to lead, collaborate, and work creatively within and outside of schools to create inclusive educational experiences that improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families. Coursework and field experiences focus on elementary, middle, and high school settings, supporting students with a wide range of abilities, including those with severe disabilities.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION (ECSE) ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/EDUCATION/REHABILITATION-PSYCHOLOGY-SPECIAL-EDUCATION/SPECIAL-EDUCATION-BSE/SPECIAL-EDUCATION-EARLY-CHILDHOOD-SPECIAL-EDUCATION-BIRTH-GRADE-3-BSE/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/rehabilitation-psychology-special-education/special-education-bse/special-education-early-childhood-special-education-birth-grade-3-bse/))

This certification prepares educators to support young children who have, or are at greater risk of developing, disabilities. The program emphasizes early intervention and collaboration with families, schools, and community organizations. Graduates can work in settings like Early Head Start, Head Start, and childcare centers, in addition to classrooms through grade 3.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION CROSS-CATEGORICAL K-12 (INCLUDING 4K) ([HTTPS://GUIDE.WISC.EDU/UNDERGRADUATE/EDUCATION/REHABILITATION-PSYCHOLOGY-SPECIAL-EDUCATION/SPECIAL-EDUCATION-BSE/SPECIAL-EDUCATION-EARLY-CHILDHOOD-SPECIAL-EDUCATION-SPECIAL-EDUCATION-DUAL-CERTIFICATION-BIRTH-GRADE-12-BSE/](https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/rehabilitation-psychology-special-education/special-education-bse/special-education-early-childhood-special-education-special-education-dual-certification-birth-grade-12-bse/))

This combined certification prepares educators to support students with disabilities from birth through grade 12. Students will be certified in both Early Childhood Special Education and Special Education Cross-Categorical K-12.

THE TEACHER PLEDGE

The School of Education at UW–Madison offers a unique financial opportunity for students in the Special Education program called The Teacher Pledge (<https://tec.education.wisc.edu/teacher-pledge/>). The School pledges to pay the equivalent of in-state tuition and fees for all teacher education students. In return, students pledge to work at a Wisconsin PreK-12 school for three to four years after graduation.

MADISON COLLEGE TRANSFER AGREEMENT

Madison College students should also investigate the transfer agreement (<https://tec.education.wisc.edu/become-a-teacher/uw-madison-school-of-education-transfer-agreement/>) between Madison College and UW–Madison. Students meeting the requirements of this agreement are guaranteed admission to UW–Madison's School of Education and to Special Education.