

August 2014

Doctor of Education

Special Education

Doctor of Education in Special Education

Kansas State University
College of Education
Department of Special Education, Counseling and Student Affairs

*Preparing Educators to be Knowledgeable, Ethical, Caring Decision Makers
for a Diverse and Changing World*

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Department of Special Education, Counseling, and Student Affairs is:

- To prepare knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision makers for students with special educational needs in the context of diverse and inclusive social groups, communities, families, and students.
- To prepare specialists to serve students and families with specific educational needs through:
 - a) assessment and intervention
 - b) leadership and collaboration
 - c) clinical application, research, and practice

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to graduate study is granted by the Dean of the Graduate School upon the recommendation of the faculty in the graduate program. Applicants seeking admission to this master's degree program must submit the information noted below. Before starting the online application, gather all information and documents for all of the following admission requirements so that they can be entered into the application. *All materials must be received before review will begin.*

A. A Completed Online Graduate School Application.

Go to the Graduate School home page <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/> and click on "Apply Now." Follow the prompts for completing the process.

Application Deadlines.

U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents: Applications are accepted throughout the year.

International Students: The online application, application fee, test scores, transcripts, financial documents, and all required application materials need to be submitted by the following dates:

- **January 1** for fall (August) enrollment
- **August 1** for spring (January) enrollment
- **December 1** for summer (June) enrollment

B. Graduate School Application Fee.

Domestic Students—A \$50 application fee is required for all domestic students; *your application will not be processed without this fee*. The fee can be paid by credit card when completing the online application.

International Students—A \$75 application fee is required; *your application will not be processed without this fee*. The fee can be paid by credit card when completing the online application.

C. OFFICIAL transcripts.

You must upload into the online application a scanned copy (PDF preferred) of the official transcript(s) from each college or university where you received your bachelor's degree(s) and completed any post baccalaureate course work or degrees. Transcripts become part of your records at Kansas State University and cannot be returned. Please be aware that printouts from university student portals are not considered a copy of your official transcript.

If you are admitted, you will be required to submit an official transcript for GPA and degree conferral verification from the institution(s) where you received your degree(s) and completed any post-baccalaureate credits.

Students whose transcripts are not in English must furnish a translation by an appropriate authority. Failure to list any colleges or universities attended may result in dismissal from the university.

D. Statement of Goals and Professional Experience.

You must upload into the online application a 1-2 page statement that includes the following information:

- Career and professional goals and aspirations, and how being accepted to the program will benefit your goals and aspirations
- Any research interests
- Past and present employment work experience within education or a related field
- Future professional plans (e.g., Upon completion of the degree, do you plan to stay in your current position? If not, what type of position would you like to seek?)
- If you have a request for a certain advisor, indicate that preference in the statement.

E. Graduate Record Exam (GRE). Each applicant must submit scores taken within the past five years on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). Priority for admission is given to applicants with scores at the 50th percentile or higher on each part of the GRE. Applicants with one or more scores below the 50th percentile may be considered for probationary admission if there is credible evidence of potential for success, such as a strong academic record.

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE). This exam has three parts: verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing. Applicants are strongly encouraged to go to the GRE website to become familiar with the exam, identify ways to prepare for the exam, and to register to take the exam. The GRE website is: www.ets.org/gre.

When registering for the GRE, you will be asked to record codes for where you want your scores sent and for the field of study of your intended graduate program. Use the following codes on the GRE registration form when applying to this degree program:

Institutional code for **Kansas State University** **6334**
Field of Study: **Special Education** **3705**

F. Letters of Recommendation.

Three letters of recommendation are needed from college or university educators and/or colleagues or supervisors who are qualified to address your professional skills and your potential for success in the graduate program. Enter the names and email addresses of the recommenders into the appropriate area in the online application.

G. An Interview. Once the all application materials have been received, the department will contact the applicant to schedule an interview. Interviews are conducted to learn about the applicant's interest and compatibility with this degree program.

H. English Language Proficiency.

To demonstrate competence in the English language, an official report of scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System - academic exam (IELTS) or Pearson Test of English (PTE) must be sent to Kansas State University for all applicants whose primary language is not English. Enter your scores in the online application and upload the report of your scores.

Learn more about English proficiency requirements at:

<http://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/application-process/international/>

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

International applicants must meet the same academic standards for admission as those required of domestic students. When applying for admission, international applicants must provide an **Affidavit of Financial Support** and documentation of **English language proficiency**. Detailed information about these issues is provided at the following website:

<http://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/application-process/international/>

THE REVIEW PROCESS

These are the steps in the application and review process:

- First, the applicant completes the online graduate application. This includes paying the application fee and uploading all additional documentation that is required.
- Second, once the online application has been completed and all needed additional documentation has been provided, the graduate program to which the student is applying will review the application and make an admission recommendation to the Graduate School.
- Third, the Graduate School reviews the application and the recommendation from the department. The Graduate School then sends an official decision letter to the applicant.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Faculty Contact in the Program. For more information, contact:

Dr. Warren J. White
Department of Special Education, Counseling, and Student Affairs
College of Education
312 Bluemont Hall
1100 Mid-Campus Drive
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506-5312
785-532-6349 or 785-532-5541
wwhite@ksu.edu

Nondegree Status. In some cases, a student may wish to take a course(s) prior to being admitted in a degree program. In these cases, a person must be admitted as a nondegree student. No more than nine credit hours earned as a nondegree student may be applied toward an advanced degree.

However, *successful completion of any hours taken as a nondegree student does not guarantee admission into the program.* Nondegree students are *not* eligible for financial assistance. A faculty advisor is *not* assigned to nondegree students.

Financial Aid. Questions about financial assistance should be directed to the Office of Student Financial Assistance, 104 Fairchild Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506, 785-532-6420 *finaid@ksu.edu*. For information regarding financial aid, you may go to *www.k-state.edu/sfa*.

Graduate Assistantships. A limited number of graduate assistantships are available in the College of Education. Go to *www.coe.ksu.edu/grad/assistantships.html* for detailed information and application procedures. It is helpful to talk with the appropriate department chair as early as possible to learn of assistantships available in the department.

Graduate Handbook. Once admitted, students should become familiar with the Graduate Handbook at *http://www.k-state.edu/grad/graduate-handbook/*. This handbook includes policies and procedures about advising, the program of study, enrollment, transfer credits, the final oral/written exam, required approval forms, and other aspects of the graduate program.

Major Professor and Supervisory Committee. Once admitted to the program, an advisor (often called the major professor) is assigned. In consultation with the major professor, the student selects three additional graduate faculty members, whose interests support the student's work, to serve on the supervisory committee. The student's supervisory committee must have at least one member from another discipline. The supervisory committee guides the student in the development of a program of study and in the formulation of research and clinical experiences.

Program Requirements for the Ed.D. in Special Education

94 credit hours

A minimum of 94 semester hours beyond the baccalaureate degree is required. Up to 30 graduate hours earned as part of a Master's degree may be used to satisfy the following requirements with the approval of the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate School.

Each student's program of study is individualized with the approval of the major professor and the supervisory committee to optimize the student's interests, expertise, and professional goals.

A. Area of Emphasis (48 credits)

B. Foundations (12 credits)

For each category, take the course listed or its equivalent.

1. Techniques and Interpretation of Educational Research
EDCEP 816 Research Methods in Education
2. Historical and Philosophical Analysis of Educational Ideas and Practice
EDLEA 810 Historical and Philosophical Analysis of Leadership in Education
3. Social Science Explorations of Educating a Diverse Society
EDCI 910 Multicultural Curriculum Programming
4. Behavioral Bases of Educational Thought and Practice
EDCEP 912 Psychological Bases of Educational Thought and Practice

C. Research Courses (6 credits minimum)

Research courses concerning methodology consistent with that required for the dissertation.

Two courses typically used to meet research expectations include:

- EDCEP 817 Statistical Methods in Education
- EDCEP 917 Experimental Design in Educational Research

D. Clinical Experience (12 hours)

The clinical experience is designed to enhance one's professional development by providing field-based exposure to the process of administration and supervision of special education programs and personnel. Objectives, activities, and outcomes for this clinical experience/internship are commonly determined by the major professor (advisor), in consultation with the student and the supervisory committee.

E. Dissertation Research (16 credits)

Completion of a dissertation which treats an important topic of professional education practice using a systematic methodology consistent with accepted research paradigms. The dissertation must be successfully defended in a public, oral defense. The dissertation work is closely supervised by the major professor, with the guidance of the supervisory committee.

Graduate Faculty in Special Education

For more information on this program, contact any of the following faculty members. The area code is 785.

Graduate Faculty	Phone Number	Research and Teaching Interests
Marilyn Kaff <i>mkaff@ksu.edu</i>	532-5901	Impact of educational policy decisions at the federal, state, and local level on special educators and students with disabilities (K-16), teacher education/professional development, students with Autism Spectrum Disorders, college students with disabilities.
Ann Knackendoffel <i>knack@ksu.edu</i>	532-5818	Learning disabilities, collaboration between teachers, learning strategies, students with attention deficit disorder, UDL (Universal Design for Learning), differentiated instruction, collaboration/teaming problem solving.
Mickey Losinski <i>mlosins@ksu.edu</i>	532-5900	Multi-tiered systems of support, antecedent intervention for students with challenging behaviors, teacher attitudes toward mental illness, and legal and policy issues in special education
James Teagarden <i>mrt@ksu.edu</i>	532-5923	Proactive assessment procedures for children with behavioral concerns, functional behavioral assessment process, role of positive supports for behavior management, aggressive violent behavior, emotional behavior disorders, classroom management, applied behavioral analysis, social skill instruction.
Linda P. Thurston <i>lpt@ksu.edu</i>	532-6943	Behavior management, applied behavior analysis, parent and family life skills, gender issues, rural and poverty issues, distance education.
Warren J. White <i>wwhite@ksu.edu</i>	532-6349	Intellectual disabilities, adult adjustment, vocational planning, training, and transition.