

# Support students with high incidence disabilities.

## The online Master's in High Incidence Disabilities

The KU School of Education and Human Sciences offers both a teacher track and a non-teacher track for the [online Master of Science in Education \(M.S.E.\) in special education with an emphasis in high incidence disabilities](#). These programs prepare educators, advocates, family members and others to teach and work with students with high incidence disabilities—frequently occurring disabilities such as learning disabilities, emotional and/or behavioral disorders, mild cognitive disabilities, and autism spectrum disorder. Graduates of this program will learn to best understand the varied and specific needs of such students, both inside and outside of the classroom.

### Program Structure

- 11 courses
- 33 credit hours
- 8 weeks per course
- Complete in as few as 2 years\*

### Admissions Requirements

- Completed [online application form](#)
- Professional resume or CV
- Completed bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended
- [Letter of introduction](#) stating your area of interest and licensure status
- Three letters of recommendation from professional or academic references
- Application fee: \$65 for U.S. residents,  
\$85 for international applicants
- IELTS or TOEFL scores (for non-native English-speaking applicants)

### Program Benefits

- Learn from renowned faculty in a department that has set the standard in the practice of special education for over 50 years
- Complete your coursework anytime, anywhere, through our [innovative online format](#)
- Two required [fieldwork practica](#) for teacher track
- No GRE required for admission
- Accredited under NCATE standards through CAEP

\*Note: Students who start in Spring terms will finish in 28 months due to availability of courses within the course schedule.

## The Curriculum

**SPED 730:** Characteristics, Methods and Assessment: Introduction to Struggling Learners and Students With High Incidence Disabilities

**SPED 741:** Methods and Assessment: Literacy Interventions for Struggling Learners and Students With High Incidence Disabilities

**SPED 743:** Methods: Functional Behavioral Assessment, Positive Behavior Support and Classroom Management

**SPED 775:** Practicum With Exceptional Children and Youth—Adaptive (teacher track only)

**SPED 841:** Advanced Methods and Assessment: Learning Strategy and Content Mastery for Struggling Learners and Students With High Incidence Disabilities

**SPED 843:** Advanced Methods and Assessment: Strategies for Students, Significant Behavior, Social and Emotional Needs

**SPED 854:** Family and Interprofessional Collaboration in Special Education

**SPED 856:** Transition Education and Services From Childhood Through Adulthood

**SPED 875:** Advanced Practicum With Exceptional Children and Youth (teacher track only)

**EPSY 715:** Understanding Research in Education

**C&T 709:** Foundations of Curriculum and Instruction (non-teacher track only)

**C&T 807:** Multicultural Education (non-teacher track only)

**SPED 898:** Master's Project

## What You'll Learn

This program gives you an overview of special education as it pertains to students with high incidence disabilities. You will learn to assess student knowledge, as well as identify and implement evidence-based practices to increase the success of students with high incidence disabilities, academically as well as behaviorally.

You'll also study the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and learn to utilize multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS). Teacher track students will complete two intensive fieldwork practica teaching children and youth with disabilities in clinical, residential and/or educational settings, and students in both tracks will produce a final master's project, an online portfolio demonstrating your professional growth, work completed and reflections on what you've learned.

## Career Outcomes

Students who complete the teacher track of the online master's in high incidence disabilities program are often licensed teachers who transition to or start a career in special education. Graduates of this program work as specialists, teachers, consultants and resource specialists who support general education teachers in adapting content and learning conditions to better meet the educational needs of students with high incidence disabilities.

Students who complete the non-teacher track of the online master's in high incidence disabilities program use their knowledge and skills to support students with high incidence disabilities outside of the classroom. These individuals often pursue or begin careers in the field of special education as consultants, advocates, administrators or government specialists.