

# EDUCATION, SPECIAL EDUCATION (M.E.D.)

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This option is designed for individuals who seek certification by the New Hampshire Department of Education in General Special Education (K-12) and a Master of Education degree. The M.Ed. Special Education Option is designed to support individuals to achieve special education certification at the initial level as well as enhance competence and extend learning beyond certification competencies in the area of special education. The option combines certification coursework with an internship and a school-based research project. The program begins in the summer and can be completed in one year (full-time) or two years (part-time). The certification aspects of this portfolio-based program blend special education content knowledge courses with a yearlong internship experience. The internship may be conducted on the job (for students employed in an appropriate special education setting) or in a field experience approved by the faculty coordinator(s) of this program. The certification component follows standards set forth by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), and the New Hampshire Department of Education. The KSC Conceptual Framework for Educator Preparation Programs provides students with a frame of reference as they work through the program.

Applicants to the M.Ed. Special Education Option must demonstrate an appropriate foundation in general education. Individuals who possess a recognized form of teacher certification have demonstrated this required competency.

Graduates from the Keene State College early childhood, elementary or secondary education programs who seek certification in General Special Education (K-12) are encouraged to apply to the M.Ed. Special Education Option during their senior year.