

SPECIAL EDUCATION

(LEARNING BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST I) INITIAL LICENSURE MEd DEGREE

The Learning Behavior Specialist I program prepares teachers to provide educational services for children and adolescents with disabilities. The program is non-categorical in philosophy and content to the maximum extent allowed by the new Illinois state guidelines for special education teacher licensure. The program curriculum covers the knowledge and skills of the Illinois State Board of Education Content Standards for Special Educators—Learning Behavior Specialist I (LSBI). The MEd in Special Education works within a philosophy of inclusion, a highlight of the way the program functions.

This degree is designed to ensure that you will have the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the multiple and unique needs of students with learning, behavioral/emotional, mental, and/or physical disabilities at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The degree offers full-time enrollment.

Average time to completion (full time): 2 years, including two summers

This is an “80/20” program, where you will spend 80% of your time in the program working directly in schools, community organizations, and cultural institutions alongside university instructors and experienced licensed teachers.

The program blends coursework and fieldwork onsite at partner institutions where teacher candidates can learn from a range of educational professionals and work directly with K–12 students and communities.

The program has suspended admission for the 2019-2020 academic year.

EXPECTATIONS AFTER GRADUATION

As a graduate with a master’s degree in special education, you will be qualified to teach at the K–12 level in public and private schools, provided teaching licensure has been achieved. Career options beyond teaching include consulting for children with special needs. You will also be well-qualified to serve as a resource for general education staff and administration on improving outcomes for all children.

Candidates in all programs leading to Illinois licensure are required to pass an Illinois Test of Basic Skills, the appropriate licensure exam, the edTPA, and a State Criminal Background Check.

Career services are available at [LUC.edu/career](https://luc.edu/career).

PROGRAM DISTINCTIONS

This is a 2-year, *full-time only*, field-based program that is designed to help you graduate in time to apply for jobs in the fall right after your graduation. As part of the program, you will earn a Professional Educator License (PEL) as well as the Learning Behavior Specialist I endorsement.

The program is accredited by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

The School of Education is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), now the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

FINANCIAL AID

Begin the financial aid process by completing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.ed.gov.

Learn more about financial aid opportunities at LUC.edu/education/financialaid.

LEARN MORE

APPLICATION INFORMATION
AND DEADLINES

gpem.LUC.edu/apply

CONTACT INFORMATION

*For further information about
the academic program, or to
arrange a visit, please contact:*

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Send all supporting documents to:

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