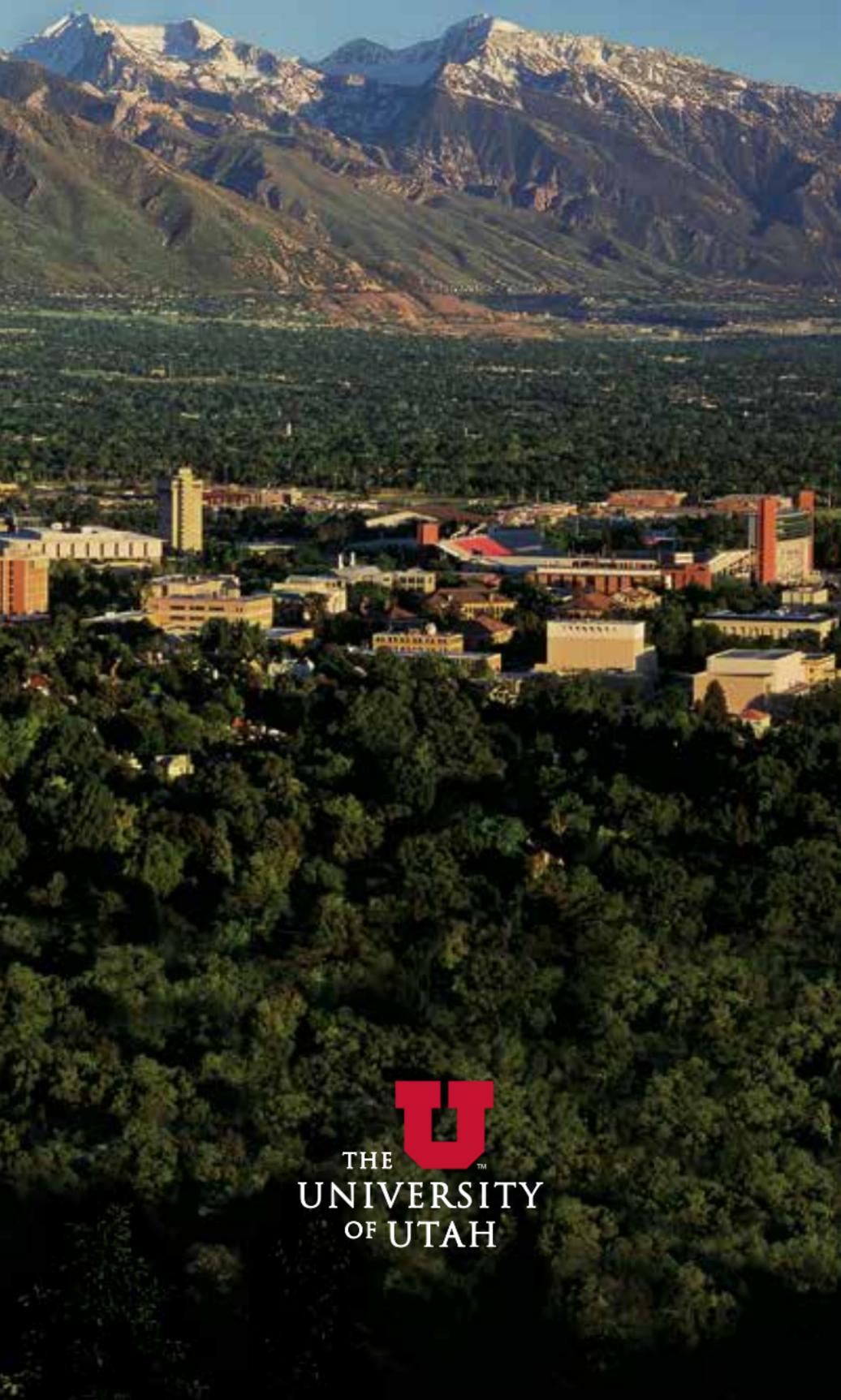


# Bachelor of Science Degree

Department of Special Education

College of Education





*Working directly  
with children is a  
key element of all  
degree programs.*



*Experience Utah's  
natural beauty*



# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

## LICENSURE PROGRAMS

*Mild/Moderate Disabilities*

*Severe Disabilities*

*Early Childhood Special Education (birth - 5)*

*Deaf and Hard of Hearing*

*Visual Impairments*

## Department of Special Education

*Rob O'Neill, Chair*

## **THE DEPARTMENT**

The Department of Special Education, located within the College of Education, provides professional training to prepare educators of young children and students with disabilities. Through its licensure and degree programs, the Department promotes a philosophy of life-long learning aimed at preparing professionals to effectively study the field and teach learners with various disabilities.

The faculty is committed to preparing educators to be dynamic and contributing team members within diverse educational communities and settings. To that end, the Department actively plans, conducts, and supports applied educational research and model development. The Department uses its programs and services as resources for students, attempting to continuously challenge and expand their skills as teachers and future education leaders.



## **THE UNIVERSITY AND THE COMMUNITY**

Set in the foothills of the majestic Wasatch Mountains, the University of Utah combines academic excellence and a commitment to research in an atmosphere conducive to undergraduate study. As the flagship of Utah's higher education system, the University plays a leading role in fostering the development and preservation of the state's resources—both human and natural. Approximately 32,000 students represent the United States and the global community. A teaching faculty of approximately 2,900 (including clinical, adjunct, research, and visiting faculty) provides the stimulus for learning and achievement.

Ten minutes away is downtown Salt Lake City, core to a metropolitan community of over one million people and home to outstanding symphony, dance, and opera companies, well-established theaters, visual arts communities, and professional sports teams. Ready access to the mountains and a four-season climate invite participation in outdoor sports ranging from hiking and camping to unparalleled powder skiing. Five national parks in Utah provide some of the most spectacular and varied scenery in the United States.

## **PROGRAM**

### ***Bachelor of Science Degree in Special Education (B.S.)***

The Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education prepares students for teaching careers in any of the following areas: Mild/Moderate Disabilities, Severe Disabilities, Early Childhood Special Education (birth - 5), Visual Impairments, and Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Students must complete approximately 122 semester credit hours in order to graduate with a B.S. in Special Education through the Department of Special Education.

## **LICENSURE PROGRAMS**

The Department of Special Education offers five programs that lead to state licensure:

- Mild/Moderate Disabilities
- Severe Disabilities
- Early Childhood Special Education (birth - 5)
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Visual Impairments

The Special Education major is a sequenced program that includes pre-major courses, a teacher education core of courses to introduce important principles of teaching followed by specialization courses in a specific area of disability. The specialization includes extensive pre-student teaching field experiences followed by a full semester of student teaching. Students must apply for admission to the program. Enrollment is limited

and admission is competitive. The Department admits students twice a year in the fall and spring semesters. The Admissions Committee is composed of faculty from the Department of Special Education. Upon successful completion of all program requirements, students are recommended for licensure to the Utah State Department of Education.

## **FACULTY**

The Department is committed to prepare qualified professionals who are ready to meet the educational needs of children with exceptionalities. A total of 14 tenure-track and clinical/support faculty serve the Department. Faculty are involved in the undergraduate and licensure programs through teaching, practicum supervision, research, and student advising. In addition to research specializations in particular areas of disabilities, faculty members have research interests that include:

- Supported inclusion
- Transition
- Professional ethics
- Educational reform
- Disability law and policy
- Reading/Literacy
- School-wide behavior support
- Assessment of special learning needs
- Augmentative/alternative communication
- Early intervention



## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

A variety of scholarship and tuition support opportunities exist for students admitted to the Department. All require formal application and typically have preset deadlines. Interested individuals should contact the academic advisor for options and details.

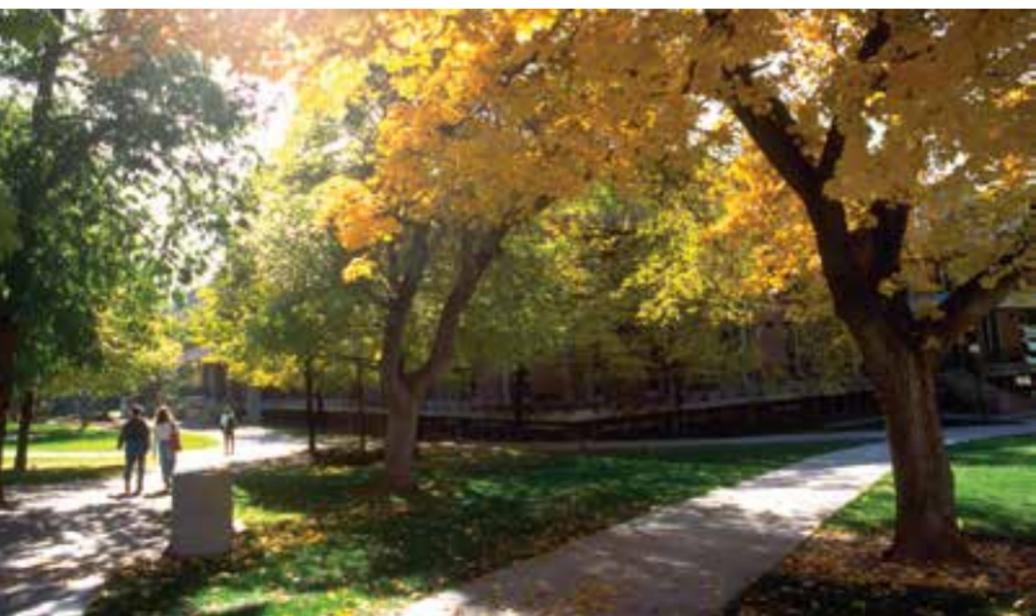
Two departmental scholarships—the Harker-Ferguson Scholarship and the Michael Foundation Scholarship—are available to students based upon merit. They require admission to the Severe Disability Program or the Mild/Moderate Disability Program, respectively. In addition, the Steffensen Cannon Scholarships are open to all students within the College of Education. This award provides students with an annual stipend while also covering all tuition costs.

Students are encouraged to contact the Department's academic advisor, the College of Education website with financial aid and scholarship information at <http://education.utah.edu/scholarships/index.php>, and/or the University Financial Aid and Scholarships Office for more information and new scholarship opportunities.

## GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The application process for admission begins by contacting the Department's academic advisor for information on timelines, criteria, and the forms needed. Depending on the licensure or degree program desired, applicants must take the PPST Praxis Exam and must include the official scores as part of the application file. Other required materials include:

- Applications to the Admissions Office of the University of Utah and the Special Education Department
- 40 credit hours of course work (transfer included) including SPED 3010, Human Exceptionality
- The PPST Praxis exam
- Two-page typewritten professional career statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official University of Utah transcripts
- Official transcripts from all other colleges and/or universities attended
- A GPA of at least 3.00 is highly recommended



Admission to the University of Utah is required for all prospective students in special education. The process for entry, however, begins with a departmental committee review that leads to a recommendation for admission to the Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education as a matriculated student. Twice annually, the Department of Special Education Admissions Committee reviews candidate files for admission. Individuals seeking admission in the summer or fall semester must have their files completed and submitted to the departmental academic advisor by March 1. The deadline for spring semester is November 1. No application will be considered without official PPST Praxis test scores.

The Department strongly encourages applications from qualified individuals, including those from diverse cultural and ethnic groups, and those with disabilities.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Patty Davis, Academic Advisor  
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Salt Lake City, UT 84112  
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FAX (801) 585-6476  
patty.davis@utah.edu  
**special-ed.utah.edu**

## **NONDISCRIMINATION AND DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT**

The University of Utah does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, status as a disabled individual, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, genetic information or protected veteran's status, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Additionally, the University endeavors to provide reasonable accommodations and to ensure equal access to qualified persons with disabilities. Inquiries concerning perceived discrimination or requests for disability accommodations may be referred to the University's Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 201 South Presidents Circle, Rm. 135, Salt Lake City, UT, 84112, 801-581-8365 (voice/tdd), 801-585-5746 (fax), or online at: [www.oeo.utah.edu](http://www.oeo.utah.edu).



November 2012



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION | THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

**DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION**