

Visual Impairments

Master of Education (M.Ed.) Program Leading to Ohio Teacher Licensure

Intervention Specialist for Children with Visual Impairments Pre-K through Grade 12

Initial teacher licensure in the area of visual impairments is offered as a Master of Education (M.Ed.) program in the School of Teaching and Learning. The M.Ed. program is designed for students who hold degrees in education or other academic areas and now wish to prepare themselves to teach students with visual impairments.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
- Minimum 3.0 overall GPA (on a 4.0 scale) in all previous undergraduate course work and a 3.0 overall GPA in all graduate course work (may not be combined). An applicant whose GPA is below the minimum may be considered for conditional admission contingent upon satisfactory performance on the General Test of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).
- Applicants are encouraged to complete some or all of the course work listed in the section titled, "Undergraduate Preparation." Students who have not taken these courses at the undergraduate level will have more course work to complete at the graduate level.
- Experiences working with children or adolescents with special needs--highlight experiences with individuals with visual impairments
- TOEFL score if required for international students (minimum score 550 paper test, 213 computer-based test, or 79 iBT TOEFL)

- Three letters of recommendation from persons acquainted with your academic program and performance, your experiences with children, and your potential as a teacher. Recommendations written on letterhead stationery should be attached to the Graduate Personal Reference Form.
- Statement of intent (2-3 pages, double-spaced) addressing all of the following issues:
 1. Quarter of intended enrollment and teaching area of interest.
 2. What contribution do you want to make as a teacher?
 3. What experiences have you had with children with special needs, particularly those with visual impairments, and what did you learn from those experiences?
 4. Discuss a current issue in education that is important to you as a future teacher
- Resume listing your academic accomplishments, paid or volunteer experiences working with children, related extracurricular activities, honors and awards (limit two pages for fellowship consideration)
- Interview

APPLICATION

- Apply online at <http://www.gradapply.osu.edu> (requires online payment of application fee). You may check the status of your application online at <http://www.appstatus.osu.edu>.
- Apply by April 1 for admission Summer Quarter. Applications for Autumn, Winter, or Spring admission may be considered on a case-by-case basis. International students should apply by November 30 for admission the following Autumn.
- See the "Application Checklist" for application procedures.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all documentation is submitted by the deadline.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Students who have a GPA of 3.6 or above and score in the 75th percentile on the GRE may be eligible for a **University Fellowship**, which will pay tuition for four full-time quarters. Recipients must be full-time. Information regarding fellowships is available on the Web at www.gradsch.ohio-state.edu/. To be considered for a fellowship, completed admissions applications and all required documentation must be received **prior to January 1 (November 30 for international applicants)**. To be competitive, applicants who wish to be considered for a fellowship should submit three letters of recommendation from professors regarding their academic potential, one letter regarding their potential as teachers, a list of their academic accomplishments, and a resume (limit two pages).
- For information regarding **College of Education & Human Ecology Scholarships**, visit the Web site at <http://che.ohio-state.edu/academics/scholarship.php>. Scholarship applications are available from November-January. The priority application deadline is **January 31**.
- For information regarding additional financial assistance for minority students, contact the Office of Diversity & Outreach, 614-292-1936. For general information, contact the Office of Financial Aid, 614-292-0300.
- For information regarding Teacher Loan Forgiveness, contact Direct Loan Servicing at 1-800-848-0979 or visit their Web site at www.dl.ed.gov.

Allow 3-4 months to process financial aid applications.

SELECTIVE ADMISSION

The M.Ed. is a competitive program with limited spaces. Meeting the minimum standards does not guarantee admission. The admissions committee also considers diversity in the range of students related to gender, race/ethnicity, and life experience.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

To remain in good academic standing, graduate students must maintain a minimum 3.0 overall GPA.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The focus of the M.Ed. program is on the preparation of teachers who have the knowledge and skills to understand the development of students with sensory impairments and to construct integrated and active learning experiences for these students who are placed in a variety of school settings, but with particular emphasis on developmentally appropriate programs for students in day school settings.

The M.Ed. program usually entails approximately 50-60 graduate credit hours if all prerequisites have been met. The program may be completed full-time or part-time. Many of the graduate courses are offered in the evening. Students who have not completed all of the recommended prerequisites will be required to complete those courses in the M.Ed. program. The need for additional coursework is dependent upon a review of the student's transcript(s) of previous coursework.

Any substitutions for the prerequisite courses require written approval from the School of Teaching and Learning based on faculty review of a course syllabus or detailed course description. Students from other institutions should meet with an academic counselor in the School of Teaching and Learning to determine which prerequisites have been met and which courses need to be taken, if any, to meet Ohio licensure requirements.

Fieldwork and student teaching require students to be available during the day when schools are in session. Students are responsible for arranging transportation to and from all field sites.

All M.Ed. students are required to complete an action research project or a comprehensive examination focused on critical issues in education.

OHIO REQUIREMENTS FOR PROVISIONAL LICENSURE

- Completion of undergraduate prerequisite courses
- Completion of an approved teacher education program
- Signed statement of good moral character as defined by the Ohio Board of Education: "A person shall be deemed to be of good moral character provided that said individual has not pleaded guilty to or been convicted of a felony."
- Fingerprinting and personal background check

- Passing scores on the PRAXIS II National Teacher's Exam
- Passing scores on the Library of Congress Braille Competency Test or its equivalent will be required as soon as the test is validated

FURTHER INFORMATION

Academic counselors are available by appointment in the Office of Academic Services, 227 Arps Hall, to answer questions about the M.Ed. program, licensure requirements, and the admission, fellowship, and scholarship processes. Scheduling begins every Wednesday for the following week. Additionally, limited walk-ins are available each week. For information, call **614-292-2332** (or call **888-678-3382** toll-free and ask to be transferred). Bring a copy of your transcripts and course descriptions to your appointment.

Licensure requirements are subject to change pending state-legislated mandates. Students are encouraged to contact the School of Teaching and Learning each year to ensure that they have the most up-to-date information

UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATION

Students are encouraged to take the following courses at the undergraduate level prior to beginning the M.Ed. program. These courses may be included in the early childhood development and education major. For information, contact the Department of Human Development and Family Science at 614-292-6612, 201 Campbell Hall, 1787 Neil Avenue. These courses also are included in the Education Minor. For more information, contact the School of Teaching and Learning at 614-292-2332, 227 Arps Hall.

Edu PAES 251 or 650 Edu PAES 677 or T&L 674	Intro to Except Children	3__
Edu T&L 467 or 817	Parent/Prof Partners	3__
Edu T&L 668.07	Children's Lit	3__
Edu T&L 669.07	Reading Fdns	4__
Edu T&L 670	Understanding Phonics	5__
Edu T&L 671	Remed & Clin Rdg Instr	4__
Psych 550 or 551	Treating Rdg Disabilities	5__
Edu P&L 306.07, 650.02, or 812	Child or Adoles Psych	5__
	American Schools	3__

Applicants who have not completed the courses listed above may enroll in them at the undergraduate level prior to beginning the M.Ed. Students who do not complete these courses at the undergraduate level will have a heavier load in the M.Ed. program and may take longer than one year to complete it.

M.Ed. COURSE WORK

Students must complete a minimum of 50 graduate credit hours to be eligible for the master's degree. A student who has completed many of the required courses at the undergraduate level and needs additional hours at the graduate level will select electives in consultation with the faculty adviser.

Edu T&L 660 or 820	Lang/Early Communic	3__
Edu T&L 685	Orientation & Mobility	3__
Edu T&L 747	Curriculum & Instruction	3__
Edu T&L 766	Technol Developments	3__
Edu T&L 826	Visual Process	3__
Edu T&L 833	Reading & Writing Skills	3__
Edu T&L 835	Modes of Communication	3__
Edu T&L 884.52	Planned Field Exp	9__
Edu T&L 885.52	Supervised Std Tchg	10__
Edu T&L 893.52	Individual Studies	3__
Edu T&L 925.52	Seminar	6__
Edu P&L 745	Inquiry Process	3__
Edu P&L 791 (or 370 & 600)	Media and Technology	4__
<i>Students take either:</i>		
Edu T&L 925.50	Tchg Math & Sci	5__
<i>OR</i>		
Edu T&L 708.70, 709.20, or 812 <i>and</i> Edu T&L 729.70, 731.20, or 811	Tchg & Lrng of Math	3__
	Tch & Lrng of Science	3__