

# TEACHING IN SPECIAL EDUCATION (M.A.T.) - SPECIAL EDUCATION GENERAL CURRICULUM

**Important:** This degree plan is effective for those starting this degree program in fall 2025 through summer 2026. This degree plan will remain in effect for students who do not break enrollment or who do not change degree programs, concentrations, or cognates.

As a requirement for completion of this program, including student teaching and passing required licensure tests, the graduate of this program, regardless of state residency, must obtain a VA state teaching license. The VA teaching license may then be used for reciprocity in another state according to the regulations of that state.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Program Courses</b>		
EDLC 504	Educational Philosophy and Theories of Learning	3
EDLC 623	Principles of Behavior Management	3
EDSP 521	Foundations of Exceptionality	3
EDSP 522	Special Education and Disability Law	3
EDSP 622	Assessment and Evaluation in Special Education	3
<b>Gate &amp; Field Experience Courses</b>		
EDGT 520	School of Education Gate 1 – MAT Initial Licensure	0
EDGT 560	School of Education Gate 2 – MAT Initial Licensure	0
EDGT 580	School of Education Gate 3 – MAT Initial Licensure <sup>1,2</sup>	0
EDLC 588	Initial Licensure Practicum I <sup>3,4</sup>	0
EDSP 688	Initial Licensure Practicum in Special Education II <sup>4,5</sup>	0
<b>Student Teaching Courses</b>		
EDST 587	The Reflective Practitioner: Resource Seminar – Special Education <sup>4</sup>	3
Candidates will be assigned one of the following:		3
EDST 560	Student Teaching - One Placement – Distance <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 561	Student Teaching - One Placement - Local <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 562	Student Teaching - Two Placement – Distance <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 563	Student Teaching - Two Placement - Local <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 564	Student Teaching – Own Classroom – Distance <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 565	Student Teaching – Own Classroom – Local <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 566	Student Teaching - Multiple Endorsement – One placement - Distance <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 567	Student Teaching - Multiple Endorsement – One placement - Local <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 568	Student Teaching - Multiple Endorsement - Two placement - Distance <sup>2,4</sup>	
EDST 569	Student Teaching - Multiple Endorsement – Two placement – Local <sup>2,4</sup>	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>21</b>

is desired, candidates should enroll in the Gate 3 course during the prior Spring semester. If a Spring student teaching semester is desired, candidates should enroll in the Gate 3 course during the previous Fall semester. These courses are not offered in Summer terms.

- <sup>2</sup> Candidates will be assigned one of the following: EDST 560, EDST 561, EDST 562, EDST 563, EDST 564, EDST 565, EDST 566, EDST 567, EDST 568, or EDST 569. Course and section number will be designated during EDGT 580.
- <sup>3</sup> EDLC 554 must be taken in the same semester as EDLC 588.
- <sup>4</sup> Background check clearance required (EDLC 554, EDLC 588, EDSP 688, EDST 560, EDST 561, EDST 562, EDST 563, EDST 564, EDST 565, EDST 566, EDST 567, EDST 568, EDST 569, or EDST 587).
- <sup>5</sup> EDSP 525 must be taken in the same semester as EDSP 688.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Special Education General Curriculum Cognate</b>		
EDLC 530	Teaching Mathematics	3
EDLC 554	Foundations in Early Literacy Instruction <sup>1,2</sup>	3
EDLC 571	Curriculum Fundamentals	3
EDSP 524	Collaborating for Successful Inclusive Classrooms	3
EDSP 525	Transition and Assessment for Exceptional Learners <sup>3</sup>	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

- <sup>1</sup> EDLC 554 must be taken in the same semester as EDLC 588.
- <sup>2</sup> Background check clearance required (EDLC 554, EDLC 588, EDSP 688, EDST 560, EDST 561, EDST 562, EDST 563, EDST 564, EDST 565, EDST 566, EDST 567, EDST 568, EDST 569, or EDST 587).
- <sup>3</sup> EDSP 525 must be taken in the same semester as EDSP 688.

## Note:

All practicum courses should be completed before student teaching and students should not complete practicum courses during the summer semester

*All applicable prerequisites must be met*

## Graduation Requirements

- Complete 36 hours
- A maximum of 50% of the program hours may be transferred if approved and allowable, including credit from an earned degree from Liberty University on the same academic level
- 3.0 GPA
- No more than two grades of C may be applied to the degree (includes grades of C+ & C-)
- No grade of D or below may be applied to the degree (includes grades of D+ & D-)
- Degree must be completed within 5 years
- Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date

<sup>1</sup> Candidates should enroll in the Gate 3 course the semester prior to desired student teaching semester. If a Fall student teaching semester

## Program Offered in Online Format

### Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
EDGT 520	School of Education Gate 1 – MAT Initial Licensure	0
EDLC 504	Educational Philosophy and Theories of Learning	3
EDGT 560	School of Education Gate 2 – MAT Initial Licensure	0
EDSP 521	Foundations of Exceptionality	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
EDSP 622	Assessment and Evaluation in Special Education	3
EDLC 530	Teaching Mathematics	3
EDSP 524	Collaborating for Successful Inclusive Classrooms	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
EDLC 588	Initial Licensure Practicum I <sup>1,2</sup>	0
EDLC 554	Foundations in Early Literacy Instruction <sup>1,2</sup>	3
EDLC 623	Principles of Behavior Management	3
EDSP 522	Special Education and Disability Law	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
EDSP 688	Initial Licensure Practicum in Special Education II <sup>1,2</sup>	0
EDGT 580	School of Education Gate 3 – MAT Initial Licensure <sup>1,3</sup>	0
EDSP 525	Transition and Assessment for Exceptional Learners <sup>1,2</sup>	3
EDLC 571	Curriculum Fundamentals	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
Student Teaching Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
EDST 587	The Reflective Practitioner: Resource Seminar – Special Education <sup>1,2</sup>	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> Should not be taken during the summer semester

<sup>2</sup> Background check clearance required

<sup>3</sup> Should be taken the semester before student teaching