

Approved Courses to Satisfy the Special Education Prerequisite Coursework

The following courses have been identified to meet the minimum competencies of foundations for educating students with disabilities and an understanding and application of the legal aspects and regulatory requirements associated with identification, education, and evaluation of students with disabilities. These competencies must be completed **prior** to the issuance of a special education provisional license in Virginia.

Below is a list of Virginia's institutions of higher education with VDOE-approved teacher education preparation programs, offering endorsements in special education. Please read and advise carefully as some institutions offer different options and some may require a combination of two courses.

This is not an exhaustive list of accepted courses that satisfy the prerequisite requirement for a special education provisional license. The Office of Licensure and School Leadership advises candidates to enroll in an approved teacher preparation program. The courses listed here are part of those state approved programs at each institution.

Averett College

ED 382: The Exceptional Student (U) **or** ED 384: The Exceptional Student (U)

OR

ED 508: The Exceptional Student (G)

Bluefield University

EDU 3133: Introduction to the Exceptional Child (U)

Christopher Newport University

PSYC 535: Exceptional Learner

[CNU does not have an approved program in special education even though this course meets the prerequisite requirements (and can be accepted). We recommend that individuals consider enrolling in an approved program (so they do not have to repeat coursework).

College of William & Mary

CRIN X48: Current Trends and Legal Issues in Educating Special Populations (U)

Eastern Mennonite University

EDS 301: Introduction to Exceptionalities (U) **or** ED 301: Needs of Diverse Learners (U)

AND

EDS 451: Educational Foundation and Due Process (U)

Emory and Henry College

EDUC 370: Survey of Exceptional Children (U) **or** EDUC 570: Survey of Exceptional Children (G)

AND

EDUC 445: Foundations of Education (U) **or** EDUC 545: Foundations of Education (G)

George Mason University

EDSE 201: Introduction to Special Education (U)

[ECED 405: Introduction to Early Childhood Special Education **for the prerequisite at GMU for the Early Childhood Special Education Endorsement only** (U)]

OR

EDSE 501: Introduction to Special Education (G) **or** EDSE 503: Introduction to Special Education (G)

[ECED 505: Introduction to Early Childhood Special Education (**for the prerequisite at GMU for the Early Childhood Special Education Endorsement only**) (G)]

Hampton University (Program discontinued 2020)

SPE 521: Survey of Exceptional Children (G)

AND

SPE 522: Current Trends and Issues in Special Education(G)

James Madison University

EXED 200: Foundations of Exceptional Education (U)

OR

EXED 508: Nature and Issue of Exceptionalities (G)

Liberty University

EDSP 323: Current Trends in Special Education (U) / EDSP 323: Special Education Law and Characteristics (U) (**name change**)

OR

EDSP 521: Foundations of Exceptionality (G) [Prior to 2020, the prefix was EDUC]

Longwood University

SPED 202: Introduction to Special Education (U) **or** SPED 489: Survey of Exceptional Children

[SPED 389: Survey of Exceptional Children (U) (Taken by Elem Ed candidates)]

OR

SPED 515: Survey of Exceptional Student/Trends & Issues (G)

University of Lynchburg

SPED 213: Introduction to Special Education (U)

OR

SPED 600: Survey of Special Education (G)

Mary Baldwin College

ED 205: Characteristics of Exceptionality (U) **and** ED 215: Foundations and Legal Issues of Special Education (U)

OR

ED 622: An Integrated Approach to Exceptionality (G) **and** IN 620: Inquiry Into the Legal and Political Processes of Exceptionality (G)

Marymount University PSY 341: Psychology of Individuals with Exceptionalities (U) OR ED 509: Special Education: Foundations and Characteristics (G)
Norfolk State University SPE 321: Characteristics, Medical, and Legal Aspects in Special Education (U) OR SPE 512: Foundations of Special Education: Legal and Ethical Aspects of Educating Exceptional Learners (G)
Old Dominion University SPED 400: Foundations of Special Education: Legal Aspects and Characteristics (U) OR SPED 500: Foundations of Special Education: Legal Aspects and Characteristics (G)
Radford University EDSP 361: Introduction to Students with Diverse Learning Needs and the Special Education Process (U) OR EDSP 651: Students with Diverse Learning Needs and the Special Education Process (G)
Randolph College EDUC 361: Survey of Special Education Special Ed Law (U) OR EDUC 661: Survey of Special Education (G)
Randolph Macon College EDUC 233: Survey of Exceptional Children (U)
Regent University ETSP 551: Characteristics of Students with Disabilities (G) or ETSP 572: Characteristics & Behavior Management of Students with Exceptional Needs (G) AND ETSP 550: Legal Issues and Foundations of Special Education (G) or ETSP 571: Foundations of Human Growth & Development & Legal Aspects for Special Education (G)
St. Paul's College SPED 333: Foundations, Characteristics, Legal, and Medical Aspects (U)
Shenandoah University SED 465: Foundations, Legal, Medical Aspects of Special Education (U) OR SED/SEDC 565: Foundations, Legal, Medical Aspects of Special Education (G)
Sweet Briar College EDUC 211: The Exceptional Learner (U)

University of Mary Washington EDSE 250: Survey of Special Education Characteristics and Legal Issues (U) or EDSE 390: Survey of Education: Characteristics and Legal Issues (U) OR EDSE 531: Survey of Special Education Characteristics and Legal Issues (G)
University of Richmond EDUC 365: Foundations and Legal Aspects of Special Education (U) OR EDUC 565/ EDUC 565U: Foundations and Legal Aspects of Special Education (G)
University of Virginia EDIS 3020: The Exceptional Learner (U) OR EDIS 5000: The Exceptional Learner (G)
University of Virginia (Wise) EDUC 369: Inclusion of Special Students in the Regular Classrooms (U) or EDU L369: Foundations of Special Education with Characteristics and Legal Aspects (U) or EDU 3690: Inclusion of Special Students in the Regular Classroom (U)
Virginia Commonwealth University TEDU 330: Survey of Special Education (U) OR TEDU 630: Trends in Special Education (G)
Virginia Intermont College EDUC 302: Psychology of Exceptional Children (U)
Virginia State University SPED 325: Survey of Exceptional Children (U) OR EDUC 503: Seminar in Special Education (G)
Virginia Union University XED 250: Introduction to Special Education (Foundations, Legal, and Ethical Aspects) (U) or SPE 250: Introduction to Special Education (U)
Virginia Wesleyan College SPED 371: Foundations/Legal Issues in Special Education (U)

The following course may be taken through one of the Virginia Community Colleges and will also satisfy the prerequisite. Please note the community college does not have an approved program. Candidates will be advised to take the remaining required coursework at a four-year institution.

Virginia Community College System EDU 250: Foundation of Special Education
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