



## M.S.Ed. in **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

### **BE A CATALYST FOR CHANGE**

#### **Learn to Lead in a Collaborative World**

You're an experienced teacher—it's time for you to lead. For teachers licensed in early childhood, elementary, secondary, special education or K-12 specialty areas, an Elmhurst M.S.Ed. in Special Education will prepare you to provide high-quality, research-based special education services in classrooms and schools.

#### **Reach Your Leadership Potential**

You'll engage in critical inquiry, develop innovative projects and apply best practices. You'll form partnerships with educators across disciplines. You'll bring fresh ideas back to your classroom and school. You'll understand how to build community, improve school climate, and work with a culturally diverse population. You'll become the teacher that others turn to for solutions.

#### **Customize Your Degree. Optimize Your Career**

Discover new possibilities with an endorsement:

- The LBS1 special education endorsement may be added after completing the state-required coursework and the Learning Behaviorist Specialist 1 (LBS1)
- ESL and/or Bilingual Special Education approval (up to 3 additional courses)
- English as a Second Language Special Education Approval
- Teacher Leadership endorsement may be added to this degree for qualified candidates (up to 2 additional courses)

## **2** years

to degree completion—  
can take up to four years to complete



#### **Program Format**

Hybrid format, on-campus  
and online

Fall, spring or summer start

Two to four years to degree  
completion



**Illinois  
State Board of  
Education**

Curriculum includes approved  
coursework for the State of  
Illinois Special Education (LBS1)  
endorsement

### **EXPERIENCE THE ELMHURST DIFFERENCE**

Flexible programs that fit into your schedule and life. Skills you'll use throughout your career. Mentoring and support for the path you want to travel. It's all part of your Elmhurst Experience.

Apply today at [elmhurst.edu/apply](https://elmhurst.edu/apply)

Office of Admission  
190 Prospect Avenue  
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

(630) 617-3400  
[admit@elmhurst.edu](mailto:admit@elmhurst.edu)  
[elmhurst.edu/msped](https://elmhurst.edu/msped)



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Teachers in our graduate programs are the type who are looking for ways to advocate for their students and improve their school culture.

**Dr. Beverly Troiano**  
Program Director  
beverly.troiano@elmhurst.edu  
(630) 617-3329



## Final Application Deadlines

Fall Term: August 15  
Spring Term: January 15  
Summer Term: May 15



## Course Offerings

You'll complete a total of 34 semester hours. We're well-known for our small class sizes and personalized learning experiences.

### Special Education Core Courses

(required, 6 courses, 18 semester hours)

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| MTL 514 | <b>Characteristics of Learners with Disabilities</b>                            |
| MTL 524 | <b>The Educational Assessment Process and Learners with Disabilities</b>        |
| MTL 532 | <b>Teaching and Learning in the Diverse Classroom</b>                           |
| MTL 535 | <b>Curriculum and Instruction for Learners with High Incidence Disabilities</b> |
| MTL 537 | <b>Curriculum and Instruction for Learners with Low Incidence Disabilities</b>  |
| MTL 542 | <b>Using School Law for Advocacy and Leadership</b>                             |

### Research Core Courses

(3 courses, 9 semester hours)

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| MTL 591                    | <b>Action Research</b> (required)  |
| Choose 2 of the following: |  |
| MTL 521                    | <b>Building Professional and Community Relationships through Collaboration</b> |
| MTL 538                    | <b>Improving School Climate and Learning</b>                                   |
| MTL 597                    | <b>Promoting Professional Development for School Improvement</b>               |

### Teacher Leadership Core Courses

(choose 2 courses, 6 semester hours)

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| MTL 528 | <b>Examining Issues and Trends in Teacher Leadership</b>            |
| MTL 536 | <b>Linking Assessment to Learning</b>                               |
| MTL 544 | <b>Cross-cultural Studies in Teaching English Language Learners</b> |

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| MTL 558 | <b>Theoretical Foundations of Teaching English Language Learners</b> |
| MTL 579 | <b>Methods and Materials for Teaching English Language Learners</b>  |
| MTL 587 | <b>Assessment of English Language Learners</b>                       |
| MTL 597 | <b>Promoting Professional Development for School Improvement</b>     |

\*If MTL 521, 538 or 597 is not used in the research core, it can be used as an elective.

### Capstone Course

(required, 1 semester hour)

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| MTL 598 | <b>Seminar in Leadership, Innovation and Critical Inquiry</b> |
|---------|---|

## Admission Requirements

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or foreign equivalent
- Currently hold a teaching position and be licensed to teach in Illinois

To apply, please submit:

- An application for graduate admission
- Three letters of recommendation from educators/administrators who can attest to your leadership qualities, communication skills, and capacity to succeed in graduate study
- A 1,000-word statement of purpose describing your personal and professional goals and how graduate study will help you achieve those goals
- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions you have attended (*Elmhurst alumni do not need to request their Elmhurst transcripts.*)
- A copy of your Illinois professional educator license
- A current résumé



School of Graduate Studies