

Instructions for Applying to the Special Education Program

Initial Deadline: February 1, 2021

Rolling Admissions after Initial Deadline

Applying to the Special Education program is a two-step process. The first step involves developing the application materials, which are detailed below. This step may be completed at any point during the application period, ideally as soon as the applicant decides to apply for admission to the Special Education program. Students need to have all application materials ready to submit before completing the second step.

Prospective applicants are also strongly encouraged to meet with a School of Education Student Services Advisor. Please go [here](#) to learn how to set up a time to meet with one of our advisors.

Technical questions about the application may be directed to soeadmissions@education.wisc.edu.

In recent years the Special Education program has been able to accommodate all qualified applicants; however, if the number of qualified applicants exceeds program resources, admission will become limited and competitive. Obtaining or exceeding the minimum eligibility criteria does not guarantee admission. Applicants should carefully review the program admission information available in the [Guide](#).

Applicants not currently enrolled on the UW-Madison campus must also submit an application to the [Office of Admissions and Recruitment](#).

Accessing the Application

The online application for the Special Education program may be accessed via the School's [Apply to a Program page](#) and must be completed by February 1, 2021. Applicants will be reviewed on a rolling basis if applying after February 1, 2021. The online application consists of the following parts and has required documents listed below:

Step One: Compile Application Materials

Review Mission Statement

- Review the Mission Statement for the Special Education undergraduate program. Mission Statement can be found [here](#).

Transcripts¹

Current and prospective UW-Madison students must upload their unofficial transcripts from each college or university they are currently or have previously attended². Transcripts must be a single file PDF per school or college.

- All UW-Madison students can go [HERE](#) to learn how to download their unofficial transcript.

¹*If enrolled in Fall 2020 courses, transcripts must include Fall 2020 courses, grades, and gpa.*

²*Includes college credits earned while in high school. Does not include AP or IB course work.*

Essays

Statement of Purpose

- Applicants must provide a written statement addressing the following prompt:
 - Provide insight into your background and experiences that have contributed to your decision to pursue a special education degree. Reflect on your own views as they relate to disabilities; consider what assumptions, previous experiences, or expectations that compel you to apply for this program.
- The document must be uploaded as a PDF and no longer than three (3) pages.

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Optional Essay:

- If you feel that the COVID-19 disruption or other extenuating circumstances had an undesirable or unexpected impact on your academic performance during spring or fall 2020, please provide additional information for the review committee to consider. Must be uploaded as a PDF.

Step Two: Completing Online Application

During this step all of the application materials are uploaded in PDF within the online application.

RPSE 300 - *Individuals with Disabilities*

- Students must acknowledge that they:
 - Have Completed RPSE 300
 - Are Currently Enrolled in RPSE 300
 - Will take RPSE 300 in Summer 2021*

**Students enrolling in RPSE 300 in Summer 2021 are provisionally admitted until completion of course.*

For technical issues please contact soeadmissions@education.wisc.edu