

How do I decide if this is a good fit for *me*?

The special education IB/M program is for individuals who:

- Want to help students with disabilities and students at risk for serious academic problems
- Are passionate about social justice and civil rights for individuals with disabilities
- Want to fit psychology and education together
- Want to work in schools their first semester in the program
- Are motivated, thoughtful, and dedicated future educators

If you're interested but unsure, talk to a student! You can meet with a current special education IB/M student to hear what the program is really like.

What can I do to prepare for the IB/M Program in Special Education?

- Get to know students with academic and behavior difficulties, including students who are at risk for serious problems, but are not yet in special education
- Work with students in schools, at camps, in tutoring programs, and by volunteering in other ways
- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Take first-year and sophomore courses related to special education
- Email a faculty member to learn more about the experiences and courses our most successful students take

Who should I contact to learn more and prepare to apply?

Dr. Michael Coyne is the program coordinator. He can connect you with students and other faculty who would love to talk to you.

We want to hear from interested students! Email **Dr. Coyne** at michael.coyne@uconn.edu.

More information can also be found at special.education.uconn.edu.

UConn | NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Integrated Bachelor's/ Master's (IB/M) Teacher Education Program in Special Education

"As a special education teacher, I hope to be a champion and an advocate for my students."

Annie MacLachlan, '18, '19

Why Earn Teacher Certification in Special Education?

Two degrees in just five years. In our Integrated Bachelor's/Master's program, you earn a bachelor's degree in education in the typical four years. You earn a master's degree in educational psychology in just one more.

Learning from the experts.

The special education faculty are *nationally known* experts in positive behavior supports; writing and reading; and transition. Our program ranks **No. 15** among graduate special education program in the U.S.* You get to learn from leaders trusted across the country.

Job opportunities. Schools in Connecticut and across the country need special education teachers. Many schools seek out UConn special education graduates because of the skills they learn in the program.

Many teaching options. There are many kinds of special education jobs, depending on your interests, and you will be certified from K-12 to work in many kinds of classrooms.

* According to 2018 *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Graduate Schools of Education Rankings



What kinds of classrooms could I work in?

There are so many possibilities! Some people think that special educators work in one classroom with one group of children all day long. That's not true. Special educators also work...

- with small groups of students
- with a co-teacher in an inclusion classroom for students with and without disabilities
- one-on-one with some children

You would have the skills to work with kids with...

- dyslexia and other reading and writing disabilities
- emotional and behavioral difficulties
- other disabilities, such as intellectual disabilities and autism-spectrum disorders

What skills would I have?

The skills you would learn are what schools value across the nation! You would learn to ...

- Manage classrooms effectively and provide positive behavior interventions and supports
- Create effective transition plans for adolescents
- Provide high-quality instruction using research-based techniques
- Assess students' academic needs and plan instruction
- Facilitate team meetings and work closely with parents