

# James Madison University BS in Special Education K-12

## Associate Transfer Degree Plan in Special Education

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS					Complete at		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		SATISFIED BY			BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		
Course	Credits	Gen ED*	CC Course	Notes	Course	Credits	Notes
Student Development	1		SDV 100 or 101		EDUC 303	3	Foundations of Curriculum & Instruction
WRTC 000	3	PUA	ENG 111	ENG 111-112 both required to receive credit for WRTC 103	EXED 303	3	Classroom & Behavior Management
WRTC 103	3	UA	ENG 112		EXED 341	3	Characteristics of Learners with Disabilities Accessing the General Curriculum
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	PUA	ART 101, 102, MUS 121, 221, 222, 226, CST 130, 151		EXED 342	3	Characteristics of Learners with Low Incidence Disabilities Accessing the Adapted Curriculum
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	UA	Any Literature		EXED 343	3	Communication, Language & Literacy for Learners on Adapted Curriculum
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	PUA	HIS 121 or 122		EXED 407	3	Transition of Learners with Disabilities
JMU General Education Requirements**	3	PUA	ECO 150, 201, 202, GEO 200, 210, 220, 225, PLS 135		EXED 429	3	Teaching Learners with Complex Care Needs
JMU General Education Requirements**	4	PUA	BIO 101, 106, GOL 105, 106, 110	BIO 101 = JMU BIO 140 (or AP biology score of 4) BIO 106 = JMU 103 GOL 105 = JMU GEOL 110 GOL 106 = JMU GEOL 110 GOL 110 = JMU GEOL 102	MAED 430	3	Teaching Mathematics in Grades K-12
JMU General Education Requirement	3	PUA	MTH 154 (preferred), MTH 167, OR MTH 161 and 162	MTH 154 = MATH 103	LED 430	3	Development, Assessment & Instruction in Literacy

JMU General Education Requirements or Elective	3	UA	CST 100 or 110	= JMU SCOM 122 or SCOM 121	EXED 450	3	Principles of Specialized Reading Instruction
Requirement for Teacher Education	3	UA	PSY 230	= JMU PSYC 160	EXED 473	3	Methods of Instruction for Learners Accessing the Adapted Curriculum
EDUC 200	3		EDU 200		EXED 474	3	Assessment & Evaluation in Special Education
EXED 200	3		EDU 250		EXED 475	3	Program Planning in Special Education
EDUC 310	3		EDU 204		EXED 476	2	Practicum in Literacy & Assessment
JMU General Education Requirements or Elective	4		BIO 101, 106, CHM 101, ENV 121, GOL 105, 106, 110, PHY 100, PHY 141 (NAS 131), PHY 142 (NAS 132)		EXED 477	3	Remedial Methods in Special Education
BS Requirement: Quantitative Literacy	3		MTH 155 or 245	Meets second math course for B.S. degree at JMU	EXED 478	2	Supervised Practices in Special Education Methods
Electives to complete your transferable associate degree**	12		HIS 101, 102, 111, 112, 121, 122, 141, 281, World Languages, Third science, Third Math, EDU 280 Technology for Educators, EDU 270 - Intro to Autism, EDU 206 Classroom Management, EDU xxx - Mathematics for Elementary Teachers, ASL 125 History & Culture of the US Deaf Community		EXED 480	8 (2x-4 cr)	Student Teaching in Special Education
			VCLA Test	Students are strongly encouraged to pass the VCLA prior to transfer.	EXED 483	2 (2x-1 cr)	Teachers as Professionals
					EXED 484	3	Inclusive Practices in Special Education
					EXED 485	3	Systematic Behavior Supports & Interventions
					EXED 486	2	Practicum in Inclusive Practices
CREDITS PRE-TRANSFER: 60					CREDITS POST-TRANSFER: 64		

\* **A** = Completion of the Associate Degree satisfies this General Education Requirement. **U** = This course satisfies a Uniform Certificate of General Studies requirement.

**P** = This course satisfies a Passport requirement.

\*\* Students who complete an approved transferable associate degree will qualify for a full waiver of general education requirements at JMU no matter which courses they use to satisfy their associate degree requirements. Students who will not be earning an approved transferable associate degree should complete core community college requirements with

courses that also satisfy “cluster” requirements in JMU’s general education program. For example, the WRTC 103 requirement can only be filled with ENG 111-112 at VCCS. Learn more about JMU general education equivalents offered at [www.jmu.edu/transfer/vccs-transfer/genedequiv.shtml](http://www.jmu.edu/transfer/vccs-transfer/genedequiv.shtml). Email [transferadvising@jmu.edu](mailto:transferadvising@jmu.edu) with questions.

## TRANSFER

### Admission into JMU Special Education:

**Students who meet the requirements for guaranteed admission to JMU are guaranteed admission into the special education major.**

- Students must complete an approved transferable associate degree from their Virginia community college with a minimum GPA of 3.0 for guaranteed admission to JMU. For additional details about requirements for guaranteed admission, please see the JMU letter of intent for your community college: [www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-gaa.shtml](http://www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-gaa.shtml).
- To be on track for timely graduation, students intending to major in special education should plan to take the EXED 342 courses at JMU during the summer session prior to their fall semester start at JMU.

### IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** <https://www.jmu.edu/transfer/>
- **Register Intent to Transfer:** Students can notify JMU of their interest in transferring through College Connect at [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org). Transfer applicants from a VCCS institution intending to apply through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA) must submit a Letter of Intent prior to applying. Requirements and forms are available at: <https://www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-GAA.shtml>.
- **Admission Application:** By March 1 for fall or October 1 for Spring at <https://www.jmu.edu/admissions/apply/apply-online.shtml>
- **Financial Aid:** <https://www.jmu.edu/financialaid>
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** Deadline is March 1. Learn more at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)
- After completing coursework for the associate degree, students should plan to take EXED 342 in the summer prior to starting at JMU.
- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered, If needed complete your BS requirements in your first year. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center at [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org)
- Connect with an advisor at your community college and James Madison University within your first year. College Connect available in your account of [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).

### IS THIS DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

Do you feel competent in basic reading, writing, math and communication skills? Are you able to break tasks down into underlying steps and skills? Do you enjoy collaborating and problem solving? Are you good at time management and organization? If your answers to these questions are yes, special education may be a good major for you. This degree requires a high level of time management skills as it balances course performance with in-field teaching experiences each semester. Having time to devote during K-12 school hours each day is essential. Being prepared to meet the needs of K-12 students at assigned times is imperative.

### WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON MY DEGREE OF WORK I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED?

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** An approved transferable associate degree from a Virginia Community College will waive general education requirements at JMU. The coursework for the associate transfer degree plan in special education will prepare students to enter the JMU special education major with third-year standing.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** The special education program follows JMU’s policies and score requirements regarding Dual Enrollment courses applied to their associate degree.
- **Education courses not completed during Associate Degree:** If you have completed your associate degree but did not take the four entry level education courses you will need to take EXED 200 in the summer prior to beginning your program and the other three courses will be fit into your program plan so that they are completed in next two years of courses.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** How credit for prior learning is awarded at JMU may be different than at your previous institution. JMU accepts and reviews AP, IB and CIE for all students with eligible scores. JMU will complete an independent review of the test score to apply credit to your JMU student record. CLEP exams will be considered for credit only for the Adult Degree Program (ADP). Other credit for prior learning is awarded on a per case basis for the ADP and RN-BSN programs in consultation with the department of expertise. Credit for learning acquired in military service is awarded by the registrar’s office using the ACE guide credit recommendation for study/experience listed on the military transcript and in consultation with the department of expertise.
- **Catalog Year:** Catalog year determined by first semester of attendance at JMU.

### IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

JMU is a mid to large size institution that behaves more like a smaller institution. Faculty and staff hold students as the top priority. JMU has a 96% satisfaction rate. 88% of classes have less than 50 students. JMU is the #1 most recommended public University in the US by the Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education; JMU is the #1 Best College for Employment in Virginia according to U.S. Department of Education statistics compiled by Zippia. JMU has the highest post-graduation job levels of all Virginia colleges. Learn more about our college at [www.jmu.edu](http://www.jmu.edu) and [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).

### DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Half of the credits required for your JMU degree must come from a 4-year institution. In special education 120 credits are required for graduation, so you’ll need to complete 60 credits at JMU after transferring from a community college (unless you have credits from a different 4-year institution).
- Completing your Associate transfer degree post-high school satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the chance of completing your bachelor’s degree.
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college means you may have exhausted your financial aid at that college and have limited your future financial aid at JMU.

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS DEGREE?

The primary outcome of this degree is that it leads to special education teacher licensure in VA and enables you to be a teacher of students with disabilities in all K-12 school settings. You can

also work with individuals with disabilities in a variety of non-school settings through nonprofit organizations. You can choose to work on policy development regarding individuals with disabilities. Explore possible careers, salaries, and job outlook at [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).

#### PROGRAM SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS

Special Education majors will have the opportunity to work with students with disabilities at all three grade-levels (elementary, middle, and high school) and across disability areas. Student teaching experiences are paired with a practicum so that all students stay within one school setting for an entire semester, so they get a more in-depth experience of how schools function. All Special Education graduates who have sought a job within the field of Special Education are employed in the field after graduating.

#### WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

- JMU accepted 67% of transfer applicants for Fall 2021

- JMU defines a transfer student as a student that has graduated from high school (or holds a GED equivalency) AND has taken courses in college after high school graduation. The competitive GPA for transfer applicants is a 3.0.

Learn more about applying at <https://www.jmu.edu/transfer/> or [www.TransferVirginia.org](http://www.TransferVirginia.org).

#### DO MORE WITH YOUR DEGREE!

Special Education majors will have the option to apply to an accelerated (1 year) master's degree program that will allow them to enhance their teaching-related knowledge so they can bring more to the classroom and school they will work within.

#### OTHER THAN CLASSES, ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

- Teacher education assessments are required for program completion and licensure (VCLA, RVE)
- CPR certification and teacher licensure modules (child abuse prevention, dyslexia, restraint & seclusion) must be successfully completed

