You can be the difference. Our Master of Science in Special Education with Learning Behavior Specialist 1 Endorsement will give you the knowledge and skills you need to provide an excellent educational experience for a remarkable range of students with special needs.

Prepare for a career of purpose and meaning
Our graduate program in special education explores the complex needs of children with learning, intellectual, emotional and behavioral disabilities, traumatic brain injury, autism, and physical and other health impairments. You'll study cutting-edge research on best practices in the field and gain the expertise you need to provide effective instruction to this underserved population of students. You'll work with respected mentors and experts in special education to develop the skills and approaches that will make a real difference in the lives of students and families. You'll experience the satisfaction of helping children with special needs achieve their goals and develop their abilities within a supportive educational environment.

A powerful program—designed with you in mind
With all the demands of career and family, who has time to earn a master's degree? You do. Our program is designed to be flexible enough to enable you to achieve your professional goals: whether you are a career changer or a licensed teacher seeking a master's degree—with or without an additional licensure. You'll be supported all the way by your faculty advisor and guided by master teachers as you complete high-impact field experiences. You'll gain the critical skills and professional confidence you'll need to support student success across a spectrum of educational settings. And you'll truly enjoy learning alongside a diverse cohort of fellow students who will become lifelong colleagues.

Scholarship Opportunities
The School of Education offers small departmental scholarships to students who meet the criteria for them. The Katherine Inglis Sutter Scholarship is awarded to special education students with demonstrated financial need. Other scholarships are awarded on a term-by-term basis. The school also offers scholarships in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Chicago. A national program, Troops to Teachers, helps members of the armed services transition to careers in teaching.

“"The master’s program was very efficient and convenient, with all the courses at night. And the resources and support within the School of Education were amazing. You knew from the start that each of the professors was invested in my success as a teacher.”

Shmouni Danha
School of Education Graduate
Here’s what you need to apply
The program accepts candidates who have earned a bachelor’s degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale. A candidate with a lower GPA may be allowed to take up to four courses on a conditional basis. The program requires candidates to submit two letters of recommendation and a personal statement showing evidence of effective writing skills and suitability for the teaching profession. In addition, candidates must achieve passing scores on all sections of the Illinois Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP). ACT or SAT scores may be submitted in lieu of TAP, as approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Preparation for a career of purpose and meaning
Dominican’s School of Education is accredited by NCATE, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. We are committed to fostering the values of scholarship, leadership and service in the rising generation of teachers. The course of study emphasizes the acquisition of professional expertise, the expansion of personal insight, and a deep appreciation of human diversity. A teacher prepared in the Dominican tradition is ready—in the words of our founder, Father Samuel Mazzuchelli—“to go where the work is great and difficult” and to strive to create a more just and humane world.

Our goal: your success

Contact us
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dminogue@dom.edu

Visit dom.edu/education

“I can’t tell you the number of times the principals who hire our teachers have told me that Dominican graduates are the best prepared in terms of the basics of teaching—as well as knowing content and interacting with parents.”

Ben Freville
School of Education Faculty