Early Childhood Special Education

Available Degrees

MA
Graduates of the Master of Arts in Early Childhood Special Education program can be licensed to work with young children with disabilities and special needs, from birth to age 8 in a variety of settings. Students immediately apply what they are learning by working with children and their families at the University of Denver’s highly-regarded Fisher Early Learning Center and other community agencies serving young children in inclusive environments.

Requirements
- 55 quarter credit hours
- 600 hours of practicum
- Passing the PRAXIS II Elementary Education Exam or PLACE Exam

Completion
- 2 years

Certificate
The certificate program will develop knowledge and practical skills needed to work successfully with inclusive Early Childhood Education programs within public schools, private programs, and community agencies that serve families with children with developmental delays, disabilities, or who have at-risk characteristics and qualities.

Requirements
- 24 quarter credit hours
- 600 hours of practicum
- Passing the PRAXIS II Elementary Education Exam or PLACE Exam

Completion
- 1 – 2 years

Scholarships Available

Students enrolled in the Master of Arts in Early Childhood Special Education recognize the critical importance of a quality education for our youngest and sometimes most impacted children. Students will learn about and practice providing quality inclusive environments for all children, utilizing a family-centered approach, and working collaboratively with other professionals that serve families with children with disabilities and special needs.

Graduates of the program have the ability to receive an Early Childhood Special Education Specialist initial license or endorsement from the Colorado Department of Education. This higher degree and endorsement provides broader opportunities for careers such as Early Interventionists for children birth to 3 years, Itinerant Early Childhood Special Education teachers in public and private preschool environments, and Child Find evaluation specialists and coordinators.

Students in the program can apply for the Fisher Scholarships, which will fully fund two admitted ESCE Master’s students in the Fall of 2015. Scholarship recipients will be determined based on how well they demonstrate the qualities of scholarship, leadership, community service, character, and financial need.