ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants to the MSED graduate programs in Special Education must:

- Hold an initial/provisional certificate in general education in the age/school range of the special education program to which they apply (Birth–Grade 2; Grades 1–6; Grades 7-12).
- Have earned an overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher in their undergraduate studies.
- Write a well-organized, well-conceptualized essay that clearly communicates their reasons for pursuing a degree in special education. Indicate the nature of their current and past experiences with people with disabilities.
- Provide three letters of recommendation from professional sources. Letters must demonstrate the applicant’s superior abilities, qualities, and potential as a graduate candidate in special education.

Academic Prerequisites
Applicants for the MSED in Adolescent Special Education Generalist Program must demonstrate that they have successfully met the following undergraduate prerequisites requirements:

- **English Language Arts**: Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 English courses (6 credits). One must be English Composition.
- **Social Sciences**: Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 Social Sciences courses (6 credits). At least one of these courses must be a U.S. history course.
- **Math**: Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 mathematics courses (6 credits). One course must be college algebra, geometry, or a comparable course. Up to 3 credits of statistics is acceptable.
- **Science**: Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 science courses (6 credits). Courses include Biology, Chemistry or another science courses. One course must also include an associated laboratory component.

Prerequisites Worksheet
Applicants to the dual certification MAT graduate program in Childhood Education and Special Education must:

- Have an undergraduate major in Liberal Arts or Science with a minimum of 30 credits.
- An overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or better.
- Write a well-written essay explaining why the applicant chose to pursue dual certification in elementary and special education.
- Provide three letters of professional recommendation that demonstrate the applicant’s superior abilities, qualities, and promise as an educator.

**Academic Prerequisites**

Applicants for the MAT Dual Certification Program must additionally have had an undergraduate course distribution in the following prerequisites:

- **English Language Arts:** Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 English courses, one must be English Composition.
- **The Arts:** Successful completion of 2 Art courses (i.e., a grade of C or better in at least one of these courses).
- **Social Sciences:** Successful completion (i.e., a grade of C or better in each course) of 4 Social Sciences courses. At least one of these courses must be a U.S. history course.
- **Math, Science and Technology:** Successful completion (i.e., a grade of C or better in each course) of 6 credits selected from the areas typically classified as mathematics, science and technology. At least one of these courses must be a lab science course.
- **Foreign Language:** Successful completion of two semesters of foreign language at the college level (grade of C or better) or 3 years of high school study in the same language with a passing grade on NYS High School in Regents in Foreign Language.
Applicants to the Post Masters Advanced Certification Programs in Special Education must:

- Have completed a master’s degree in education.
- Have an overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or better in their master’s program.
- Have New York State Teacher Certification at the Initial (Provisional) and/or Professional (Permanent) level in general education (either in early childhood education, childhood education, or in a secondary content area).
- Write a well organized and well conceptualized essay that clearly communicates reasons for pursuing a certification in special education and the nature of current and past experiences with people with disabilities.
- Provide three letters of recommendation from professional sources. The letters must demonstrate the applicant’s superior abilities, qualities, and potential as a graduate candidate in special education.
- **Candidates with master’s degrees and existing certification in early childhood education** are eligible for either the early childhood special education advanced certificate program or the childhood special education advanced certificate program.
- **Candidates with master’s degrees and existing certification in childhood education** are eligible for either the childhood special education advanced certificate program or the early childhood special education advanced certificate program.
- **Candidates with master’s degrees and existing certification in a secondary content area** (e.g., history, mathematics, chemistry, English) are eligible for the adolescent special education advanced certificate program.

**Academic Prerequisites**

Applicants for the **Post Master’s Advanced Certification in Adolescent Special Education Generalist Program** must demonstrate that they have successfully met the following undergraduate prerequisites requirements:

- **English Language Arts**: Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 English courses (6 credits). One must be English Composition.
- **Social Sciences**: Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 Social Sciences courses (6 credits). At least one of these courses must be a U.S. history course.
- **Math**: Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 mathematics courses (6 credits). One course must be college algebra, geometry, or a
comparable course. Up to 3 credits of statistics is acceptable.

- **Science:** Successful completion (i.e., a grade of B or better in each course) of 2 science courses (6 credits). Courses include Biology, Chemistry or another science courses. One course must also include an associated laboratory component.

**Prerequisites Worksheet**