Is It Right for You?
The Personalized Professional Master’s Degree concentration in Special Education is open to experienced special education educators, related professionals, and licensed teachers who are preparing to enter the field of special education. Our students develop the skills, knowledge and dispositions to teach in elementary and secondary classrooms serving students with disabilities.

As part of this program, you will learn to fully engage students in your classroom by exploring:

- Advocacy for persons with disAbilities
- Assessment of learning differences and specific learning disAbilities
- Family, professional and community collaboration
- Inclusive gifted education
- Interventions for exceptional learners
- Leadership in special education
- Reflective practice
- Special adaptations for inclusive classrooms
- Trans-disciplinary special education

The Personalized Professional MA in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Special Education prepares educators to deliver high-quality educational experiences for students with a range of emotional and learning needs, including gifted children. We strive to prepare compassionate leaders who are dedicated to social justice and excellence for all students.

Extraordinary opportunities to develop research and teaching skills await our special education graduate students. You’ll work with your faculty advisor to choose your core area of focus in special education. All our courses include a special focus on working with students identified with specific learning disabilities and/or emotional/behavioral disabilities.

Options include:
- Literacy/specific learning disability
- Multi-tiered systems of supports
- Inclusion
- Secondary special education

Next, in consultation with your faculty advisor, you will select five courses (15 credits) from a list of thematic courses to customize your learning. Finally, you will take a research course and a capstone course to round out this 30 credit hour program.

A Reputation that Opens Doors
We are nationally ranked among the top schools of education. The Personalized Professional Master’s Degree concentration in Special Education gives you the knowledge and skills to promote the standards recommended by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC).
A Master’s with More Choices Means a Career with More Opportunities
Fuel your passion and your career while maximizing your students’ engagement and achievement with a Personalized Professional Master’s Degree from CU Denver’s School of Education & Human Development.

Join an innovative program that will improve your practice and put you in touch with the latest theories and innovative teaching strategies in special education. At the same time, this path allows you to customize your curriculum by selecting from courses outside your main area of focus according to your own needs and interests. You can choose from interdisciplinary courses on a variety of themes.

How It Works:
Step 1. Select your Master’s of Curriculum and Instruction concentration:
- Special Education

Step 2. Personalize your program with 15 credit hours of courses from the following thematic course categories:
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Families and Communities
- Language, Literacy and Culture
- Leadership
- Learning and Development
- Pedagogy, Instruction and Assessment
- Social Emotional Growth
- Teaching and Learning

If you plan to pursue a Special Education endorsement along with your MA, please consult our admissions team for more information. We have separate MA and endorsement paths for you.

Apply Now
Website: education.ucdenver.edu/personalize
303.315.6300

Scholarships/grants
TEACH grants are available for those teaching or willing to move to teaching in schools that qualify. Additional university scholarships and financial aid are available. For a complete list of financial aid opportunities, visit ucdenver.edu/education/scholarships.

About CU Denver
The University of Colorado Denver provides a quality academic experience through engagement with gifted faculty members, exposure to original research and real-world learning. Located in the heart of downtown, CU Denver offers its 14,000 students unparalleled internship, career and networking opportunities. Part of the fabric of the city, CU Denver has evolved into a leading urban public campus boasting eight schools and colleges. CU Denver is committed to providing students opportunities to enhance their lives and careers and to learn with purpose. For more information on CU Denver, please visit us at www.ucdenver.edu.

The School of Education & Human Development at the University of Colorado Denver attracts students who are passionate about careers in teaching and mental health. We match their passion with an education that is rooted in diversity, technology, proven approaches and real-world practice. That’s why our graduates are prepared to make immediate and life-long impacts on people, communities and the world. Email education@ucdenver.edu for more information.