MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION, SPECIAL EDUCATION
EARN YOUR PROFESSIONAL NEW YORK STATE TEACHING CERTIFICATE

Bachelor's Degree Requirements: Applicants for certification in special education must hold a bachelor’s degree in education and teaching certification at the level they are seeking in special education. For example, an applicant holding an Elementary Education certificate valid for Grades PK-6 is eligible to complete Special Education programs at the Early Childhood (Birth-Grade 2) or Childhood (Grades 1-6) levels.

Prerequisites:

a. Literacy/reading methods (6 hours)
b. An introductory course in special education (3 credit hours)
c. A minimum of 50 hours of field experience
d. At least 20 days of student teaching

GPA Requirements: A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in the most recent 60 credit hours of study is required for admission.

Students may begin this program in the Fall semester. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

- Completed online application- visit [www.potsdam.edu/graduateapplication]
- *Letter of intent*- Expressing personal and professional goals and how the program fits your professional goals. Specific attention must be given to program guidelines, and the document should be no greater than three pages.
- Three letters of recommendation- Professional/Academic references only that address your readiness for graduate school, and potential for success as an educator.
- Transcripts from all institutions previously attended- Unofficial copies will be accepted for the purpose of admissions decisions, however official copies must be received after commitment to enroll is received. Transcripts showing a conferred bachelor’s degree are required for admission.
- *Curriculum vitae/resume
- Verification of a current teaching certificate in early childhood, childhood, middle childhood, or adolescence education (or their equivalent).
- International applicants must visit [https://www.potsdam.edu/admissions/graduate/apply/international] for detailed information related to degree and language proficiency.

*May be uploaded along with the graduate application*