

Accelerated Dual Degree Program in EDUCATION

2 Degrees. 2 Teaching Licenses. 5 years.



EARN CREDENTIALS IN:

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

**INITIAL LICENSURE IN
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION,
GRADES 1-6**

**MASTER OF EDUCATION IN
MODERATE DISABILITIES**

**INITIAL LICENSURE IN MODERATE
DISABILITIES, GRADES PREK-8**

The College of Graduate and Continuing Education

at Westfield State University is proud to offer a variety of graduate programs designed to accommodate the personal and professional needs of today's busy student. With no difference between our in- and out-of-state tuition, Westfield State University is a great option for students all over the Northeast!

We share the values of the modern adult learner. Our high quality programs are affordable, flexible, and rewarding. We welcome the opportunity to tell you more about our programs, division, and university and also to guide you through the admission process. We encourage you to work with our outreach specialists who are here to answer your questions.

Westfield
STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF
**Graduate &
Continuing Education**

WHY GET ONE DEGREE WHEN YOU COULD GET MULTIPLE CREDENTIALS?

More and more school districts recognize the need to hire general classroom teachers who are also qualified to teach students with moderate disabilities. Licensure in both Moderate Disabilities (PreK-8) and Elementary Education will enable you to create learning opportunities that are effective for all of your students, and assure them success.

Westfield State University offers an accelerated dual degree program for undergraduate Elementary Education majors! The program is a sequence of undergraduate and graduate level Education courses packaged together to allow students to finish their bachelor's degree in 4-years and complete an M.Ed. program in one additional year.

WHEN COMPLETED, YOU WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR:

- Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
- Initial licensure in Elementary Education, grades 1–6
- Master of Education in Moderate Disabilities
- Initial licensure in Moderate Disabilities, grades PreK–8

WHY WESTFIELD?

You will benefit from:

- A special dual-licensure academic advisor who will be there to provide support during your entire program
- Support preparing for and taking the comprehensive exams necessary to obtain your licenses in Massachusetts
- More marketable skills that could earn you a higher salary
- On-campus housing is available throughout the duration of the program pending space availability.

WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

Current Westfield State Elementary Education majors can apply to the Accelerated Dual Degree program in their junior year. After acceptance, students begin taking undergraduate level coursework to supplement their undergraduate program of study after their junior year. Program requirements must be met in order to move into the master's degree phase. The application process for this accelerated option is competitive, and meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ACCELERATED DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM, YOU MUST:

- Be accepted into the elementary education major by following the admissions guidelines for first-time freshman, or transfer applicants found at: westfield.ma.edu/admissions
- Have an overall GPA of 3.3 prior to spring of sophomore year
- Pass the Communication and Literacy portions of the MTEs
- Complete the statement of eligibility during your sophomore year, and plan to apply to the graduate school by February 15 of your junior year.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Current graduate tuition and fees may be found on the website for the College of Graduate and Continuing Education. These are not included in your undergraduate tuition. A practicum fee is required for student teaching.

You may need to pay for graduate classes out of pocket if you already receive the maximum amount of financial aid.

The College of Graduate and Continuing Education offers a limited number of graduate assistantships that can help with the costs of graduate courses. Also offered is the Supporting our Schools Scholarship, with an application deadline each summer. Additional information can be found at GoBackNow.com or by contacting the CGCE.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

This program is designed for students who major in Elementary Education and who also have an interest in obtaining a second initial license in Moderate Special Needs and a Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree. After four years, including summer sessions between junior and senior years, the initial phase of this program leads an undergraduate degree and initial licensure in Elementary Education, grades 1-6, providing all degree and licensure requirements are complete, including successful completion of student teaching. A fifth year of study at the graduate level leads to initial licensure in Moderate Special Needs, grades PreK-8, and a M.Ed. degree providing all degree and licensure requirements are complete, including completion of student teaching. Comprehensive exams are required and will be taken in the spring of the 5th year.



Admissions requirements for current students

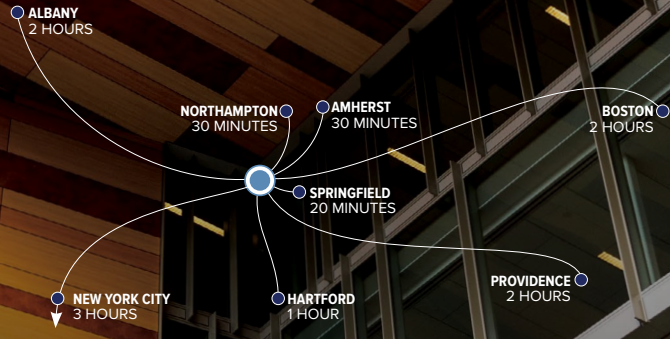
STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY TO BE COMPLETED IN SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Applicants to the program need to have a WSU overall GPA of at least 3.3 and sophomore standing
- Submit a current degree audit with the statement of eligibility for your BSE and BA programs. Liberal Studies concentrations should be declared by the time of submitting your statement of eligibility and indicated on your BA degree audit
- Applicants to the program need to have successfully completed the Communication and Literacy MTEL test. Please include your official score report to your statement of eligibility*
**Be sure to save copies of your score report emailed to you in PDF format from the MTEL*

COMPLETE THE EARLY ENTRY GRADUATE APPLICATION BY FEBRUARY 15TH OF JUNIOR YEAR SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- **Narrative:** Each question should be addressed in a clear and concise fashion in one page or less, list the question at the top of the page, and follow traditional conventions (12 pt font, double spaced, standard margins)
 1. Why you are interested in this program and how will participation in this program support your future professional goals?
 2. We are looking to build a diverse cohort so please address what unique aspects, perspectives, or experiences you will bring to the program
- **Please use the supplied forms and solicit two references**
 - Reference one** is for someone familiar with your work with students or youth. This could include summer work, classroom volunteer experience, or other employment involving youth.
 - Reference two** is for someone familiar with your academic potential. This individual should be able to speak to your written communication skills as well as your potential to handle an accelerated degree plan. This reference should come from a WSU faculty member not in the Education Department.

Nestled in the scenic Pioneer Valley, Westfield State University is within commuting distance of Springfield, Worcester, Boston, the Berkshires, northern Connecticut, eastern New York, and southern Vermont and New Hampshire.



Westfield State University

Graduate and Continuing Education

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