Program Overview

The Exceptional Student Education Program is designed to develop highly competent professionals who, together with individuals with varied exceptionalities and their families, work to enhance the quality of life through their advocacy, teaching, research and service.

This clinically rich program introduces students to the diverse settings in which they may encounter individuals with special needs. Through field-based experiences and integrated coursework, students will develop an informed perspective on the ethical and pedagogical issues impacting individuals with exceptionalities.

This is a full-time, cohort-style program with clinical experiences in grades K-12. Courses for earning an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement are included in this program.

Some courses in this program include:
- Creating Effective Learning Environments
- Enhancing Expertise in Teaching & Instructional Decision Making
- Narrative Perspectives on Exceptionality: Cultural and Ethical Issues

What Can I Do with this Degree?

Upon successful completion of this state-approved program, students are eligible for certification from the Florida Department of Education in exceptional student education (grades K-12) and are competitive applicants for positions such as:
- Exceptional Student Education Teacher
- Behavioral Specialist
- Vocational Specialist

Student Organizations & Involvement

The College of Education encourages participation in campus organizations, including:
- eduCARE, the College of Education’s Living Learning Community
- The SunCoast Area Teacher Training and Educational Research Program (SCATTER), the College of Education’s Honors Program
- Kappa Delta Pi, the College of Education’s chapter of the international honor society in the field of education

Admissions Requirements

To be admitted to this program, students must submit a separate application to the College of Education. Students must also:
- Be admitted to the University of South Florida
- Have a 2.5 or higher GPA
- Complete pre-requisite coursework
- Successfully complete all sections of the FTCE General Knowledge Test

Visit [www.usf.edu/education/advising/undergraduate/coedu-applications.aspx](http://www.usf.edu/education/advising/undergraduate/coedu-applications.aspx) for application links and deadlines.

Select programs may have additional application requirements. Please visit an advisor to review specific program guidelines.

Scholarships & Financial Assistance

Students are encouraged to inquire about scholarships, grants, loans and repayment programs to help finance their education. Financial aid information, including application guidelines and eligibility requirements, can be found at:
- [www.usf.edu/financial-aid](http://www.usf.edu/financial-aid)
- [www.usf.edu/education/undergraduate/scholarships-grants.aspx](http://www.usf.edu/education/undergraduate/scholarships-grants.aspx)

For more information, please contact:

Student Academic Services  edu-advise@usf.edu
USF College of Education  813.974.2979