



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES
CONTINUING EDUCATION / UW-EXTENSION

Director of Special Education and Pupil Services Online Program for Wisconsin DPI Licensure

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DSEPS

Why should I choose the UW-Eau Claire Program?

- Community of learners utilizing Desire2Learn (D2L) asynchronous instruction—Enhance your career from the comfort of your own home!
- Access required readings, numerous libraries, and other sources via links from D2L—you'll also use some traditional textbooks.
- Complete the program in as little as one year! (but take longer, if you'd like)
- Apply for your license as a Director of Special Education and Pupil Services as soon as you've completed the coursework. It's been pre-approved by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
- When finished, you'll be prepared to lead!

What did past students think about it?

"... entirely applicable to my current work and a great source for networking."
"I like being able to attend class when I have the time."
"Very interactive, salient material and great instruction and discussions."
"The professors were all very helpful, knowledgeable and supportive and their backgrounds led to valuable discussion and material review."
"I have recommended this program to several colleagues! Again, thank you!"
"I learned a lot and it was worth the work!"

What courses will I take?

- SPED 782 – Special Education Law
- SPED 786 Leadership in Special Education
- SPED 787 Leadership in Pupil Services
- SPED 695 Budget & Finance for Special Education & Pupil Services
- SPED 789 Practicum: Leadership in Special Education and Pupil Services

I work full time – Will I be able to keep up?

The honest answer? It won't be easy, but here are some facts that may help you decide:

- SPED 782 and 786 (3 cr. each) are offered over 4 work-intensive summer weeks. Think of each one as a 4-week full-time job!
- SPED 787 (3 cr.) is offered in the Fall semester.
- SPED 695 (1 cr.) is offered in the 3-week "Winterim" –

between the New Year Holiday and the start of the spring semester.

- SPED 789 (3 cr.), your final Practicum, is offered in the spring semester.

What is required to fulfill the Practicum?

- *It is your responsibility to request release time from your District and/or Supervisor before applying for this program.* You will be required to devote **8-10 hours per week** throughout your school's semester, most during the regular work day, in order to fulfill the experiential requirements of the course.
- *It is your responsibility to find a qualified mentor* – preferably someone who works in or near your district. This person will oversee and evaluate your Practicum experience. Your mentor must be approved in advance by the DSEPS director or representative.
- Twice during the Practicum, you will be observed by a qualified UW-Eau Claire representative. This person will meet with you and your mentor, and will also evaluate your work.

Am I certain to be admitted if I meet the relevant minimum requirements listed above?

All complete applications received by the deadline will be reviewed. Those candidates deemed to be the most qualified will be admitted, as space allows. NOTE: Priority will be given to applicants who hold degrees and licensure in either Special Education or School Psychology.

How do I apply?

- Complete the DSEPS Program application form online or print and mail (www.uwec.edu/ce/education/dseps.htm)
- Submit all additional materials to the address indicated on the application form (letters of recommendation, transcripts, etc.)

When is the Application Deadline?

Only completed applications received by March 1st will be considered. Applicants will be notified of acceptance or denial no later than April 15th.

Where do I go for more information?

- Visit our website at: www.uwec.edu/ce/education/dseps.htm
- Email ce@uwec.edu
- Call 715-836-3636 or 1-866-893-2423. Ask for the DSEPS Program Manager

See back for Requirements for Admission