

FAU FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST Graduate Programs		UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____
	Department Special Education College Education		
Program Name Special Education Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)		☐ New Program ☒ Change Program	Effective Date (TERM & YEAR) Fall 2025
Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment The Department of Special Education (DSE) proposes to change the admission criteria and application deadlines for the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program. The department seeks to change the admission criteria to expand accessibility to the program. The changes include the elimination of the GRE, lowering the undergraduate GPA (using the last 60 credit hours), lowering the graduate GPA, and adding a personal statement. Each change is expected to encourage students to apply to the program, mainly working professionals who may desire a doctoral degree but have been discouraged by the previous admission criteria. The admission deadline will also change. Moving the deadline to February will allow the faculty admission committee to make decisions early, thereby allowing students to decide about accepting the admission offer earlier. If the department is to attract the most qualified students, it is necessary to make admission decisions early to ensure funding and other support are available. The specific changes are described in the attached document. Additionally, red line changes for the catalog appear in this document. Please see attached form for details on the admission changes.			
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Charles Dukes		Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation	
Approved by Department Chair _____ College Curriculum Chair _____ College Dean _____ UGPC Chair _____ UGC Chair _____ Graduate College Dean _____ UFS President _____ Provost _____		Date 10-25-24 10/31/24 11/1/2024 _____ _____ _____ _____	

Email this form and attachments to UGPC@fau.edu one week before the UGPC meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.

**Department of Special Education
Proposed PhD Admission Changes**

Doctoral Admission Criteria-Proposed Changes

Domestic Applicants		International Applicants	
<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>
Undergraduate GPA of 3.5	Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 in last 60 credit hours	Undergraduate GPA of 3.5	Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 in last 60 credit hours
GRE test score of 148 (verbal), 144 (quantitative) and 3 (analytical writing)	Remove GRE requirement	GRE test score of 148 (verbal), 144 (quantitative) and 3 (analytical writing)	Remove GRE requirement
Three years teaching (or similar) experience	Two to three years of teaching or experience working with/supporting people with disabilities	Three years teaching (or similar) experience	Two to three years of teaching or experience working with/supporting people with disabilities
Master's Degree	Add master's GPA of 3.0	Master's Degree (w/course-by-course evaluation of international transcripts if applicable)	Add master's GPA of 3.0
Applicants who do not meet one or more admission criteria.	Applicants with less than two years' experience working with/supporting individuals with disabilities or an undergraduate or graduate GPA below 3.0 are encouraged to submit a personal statement describing their strengths and desire to pursue a doctoral degree.	Applicants who do not meet one or more admission criteria.	Applicants with less than two years' experience working with/supporting individuals with disabilities or an undergraduate or graduate GPA below 3.0 are encouraged to submit a personal statement describing their strengths and desire to pursue a doctoral degree.
Original Writing Sample	Original writing sample to be complete under controlled conditions (e.g., timed writing on a particular	Original Writing Sample	Original writing sample to be complete under controlled conditions (e.g., timed writing on a particular

Domestic Applicants		International Applicants	
<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>
	day) on campus or via lock-down browser		day) on campus or via lock-down browser
Interview	Interview will take place after the Doctoral Admission Committee has reviewed application materials (i.e., Application, Resume, Transcripts, Personal Statement or Extended Personal Statement (when necessary) and writing sample. An applicant may not be interviewed based the assessment of the afore mentioned materials. If the applicant does not move forward, a rejection letter will be issued.	Interview	Interview will take place after the Doctoral Admission Committee has reviewed application materials (i.e., Application, Resume, Transcripts, Personal Statement or Extended Personal Statement (when necessary) and writing sample. An applicant may not be interviewed based the assessment of the afore mentioned materials. If the applicant does not move forward, a rejection letter will be issued.
		English Proficiency. Have attained minimum English proficiency scores within the last two years: TOEFL 500 (paper-based test), or 213 (computer-based test), or 79 (Internet-based test); a score of at least 6.0 on the IELTS; or, Duolingo 110.	No change

Doctoral Application Deadline-Proposed changes

Domestic Applicants		International Applicants	
<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed change</i>
Fall: July 1	February 1 (beginning in 2026)	Fall: February 15	February 1 (beginning in 2026)

Summer: November 1	No summer admission	Summer: July 15	No summer admission
Spring: January 15	No spring admission	Spring: January 15	No spring admission

Catalog Changes

Admission Requirements

1. The student must have a master's degree from an approved college or university.
2. The student must have a grade point average and ~~Graduate Record Examination scores~~ as follows:
 - a. An average of 3.0 ~~3.5~~ or higher in all graduate work taken;
 - b. Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 in the last 60 credit hours
 - c. ~~Minimum GRE scores of 148 (verbal), 144 (quantitative) and 3 (analytical writing).~~
3. The student must have completed at least two ~~three~~ years of full-time experience working with/supporting individuals with disabilities.
4. The student must submit a personal statement describing research/scholarly and academic interests, strengths, areas of growth, and two potential faculty members to serve as major professor.
5. Each applicant for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Special Education must be approved for admission by the department. This recommendation will in part be based upon an interview and a writing sample.

From: [Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon](#)
To: [Sarah Roberts](#)
Subject: Fw: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29
Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 2:49:22 PM

Joseph Calvin Gagnon, Ph.D.
Professor & Department Chair
Department of Special Education

Florida Atlantic University
Bldg 47 (Room 412), Boca Raton, FL 33431
Phone: 561-297-3281
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ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3266-5843>
Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=E91DESMAAAAJ&hl=en>
Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joseph-Gagnon>

From: Charles Dukes <cdukes@fau.edu>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 8:38 AM
To: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29

Hello,
The Department of Curriculum and Instruction does not have a conflict.

Charles Dukes, EdD, PhD
Professor and Chair, Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Professor and Doctoral Coordinator, Department of Special Education
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road Boca Raton, FL 33431
E-mail: cdukes@fau.edu
office-561 297 3965

To learn more about me and my research,
go to <https://www.fau.edu/education/faculty/dukes/>

From: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Date: Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 10:14 PM
To: Dale Williams <DWILLIAM@health.fau.edu>, Carman Gill <gillc@fau.edu>, Charles Dukes <cdukes@fau.edu>, Robert Shockley <SHOCKLEY@fau.edu>
Subject: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29

Hi,

The Department of Special Education is recommending modifications to our Ph.D. Admissions requirements. We would appreciate an email response from each Chair that specifically states that the changes will not impact your program. Please provide an email response by October 29. Thank you.

Cheers,

Joe

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Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joseph-Gagnon>

From: [Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon](#)
To: [Sarah Roberts](#)
Subject: Fw: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29
Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 2:49:29 PM

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From: Carman Gill <gillc@fau.edu>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 9:37 AM
To: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29

Hi Joe,
No impact for Counselor Education. Thanks,
Carman

[Carman S. Gill, PhD, LCMHC, NCC, ACS](#)
[Professor and Chair](#)
[Department of Counselor Education](#)
[Florida Atlantic University](#)
[777 Glades Rd.](#)
[ED 47, Rm 279](#)
[Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991](#)

From: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2024 10:14 PM
To: Dale Williams <DWILLIAM@health.fau.edu>; Carman Gill <gillc@fau.edu>; Charles Dukes <cdukes@fau.edu>; Robert Shockley <SHOCKLEY@fau.edu>
Subject: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29

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specifically states that the changes will not impact your program. Please provide an email response by October 29. Thank you.

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Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joseph-Gagnon>

From: [Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon](#)
To: [Sarah Roberts](#)
Subject: Fw: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29
Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 2:49:41 PM

Joseph Calvin Gagnon, Ph.D.
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Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joseph-Gagnon>

From: Dale Williams <DWILLIAM@health.fau.edu>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 11:41 AM
To: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Subject: RE: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29

No objection from CSD.

From: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2024 10:14 PM
To: Dale Williams <DWILLIAM@health.fau.edu>; Carman Gill <gillc@fau.edu>; Charles Dukes <cdukes@fau.edu>; Robert Shockley <SHOCKLEY@fau.edu>
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From: [Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon](#)
To: [Sarah Roberts](#)
Subject: Fw: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29
Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 2:49:44 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-lurhrhod](#)
[Outlook-gprzsd1](#)
[Outlook-Image resu](#)
[Outlook-https ts](#)

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From: Robert Shockley <SHOCKLEY@fau.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 2:42 PM
To: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>; Dale Williams <DWILLIAM@health.fau.edu>; Carman Gill <gillc@fau.edu>; Charles Dukes <cdukes@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Special Education Ph.D. Admission Requirements *Please respond by October 29

No conflict with ELRM. RS

Robert Shockley, Chair
Educational Leadership and Research Methodology
ED 47 Room 260A
777 Glades Rd.
Boca Raton, FL 33431
(561)297-3551





From: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>

Sent: Saturday, October 26, 2024 10:14 PM

To: Dale Williams <DWILLIAM@health.fau.edu>; Carman Gill <gillc@fau.edu>; Charles Dukes <cdukes@fau.edu>; Robert Shockley <SHOCKLEY@fau.edu>

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