



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Department of Special and Early Education

College of Education

TVI Program of Study

Students seeking initial teacher licensure in special education – Teacher of Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

This checklist is an advising tool. It is the student's responsibility to read the Graduate Catalog for programmatic information including courses, course prerequisites and other program requirements. Teacher licensure coursework may differ from degree coursework. Meet with your advisor to prepare for teacher licensure.

PREPARING FOR ADMISSION — REQUIREMENTS:

- _____ An undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or higher for the last two years of undergraduate work.
- _____ Two letters of recommendation.
- _____ A completed admissions application to the [Graduate School](#). (A **complete** graduate application includes a completed application, payment of an application fee, official transcripts, career goals statement, résumé, and letters of recommendation.)

The GRE is no longer required for admission to the TVI program. Please be aware that if you are seeking grant aid from one of the vision grants in this department you may be required to take the exam. Please contact Stacy Kelly, Ph.D., at skelly@niu.edu or Gaylen Kapperman, Ph.D., at gkapperman@niu.edu for more information on the grants.

Prior to student teaching you are required to complete the following:

Teacher of Students Who are Blind or Visually Impaired Content Test #150 required for licensure; take during last semester prior to student teaching. Visit the [ILTS website](#) for more information.

Special Education General Curriculum Test (SEGC) #163 required for licensure; take during last semester prior to student teaching. Visit the [ILTS website](#) for more information.

NIU School [Safety Tutorial](#): Please submit a copy of the email you receive to the graduate secretary once you complete the tutorial.

Mandated Reporter. If you already completed a workshop or course, **please provide a copy of the completed tutorial or course to the graduate secretary**, 162 Gabel Hall, Department of Special and Early Education, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115. If you need to complete a tutorial please visit the SEED [Student Resources](#) page and locate the materials under the Clinicals section.

TB Test (within a calendar year before clinicals; provide graduate secretary with evidence of negative result issued by medical office): It is your responsibility to bring in a current TB Clearance card to the SEED graduate secretary (GA 162). You cannot student teach without a valid TB card.

Criminal Background Check: Must be completed at your placement location prior to starting your clinical or student teaching.

Capacity to Perform: You may need to complete a physical exam through the district you are assigned by the Clinical Office.

Prior to Licensure:

Completion of the Teaching Performance Assessment (edTPA). General information is located within the [University Office of Educator Licensure and Preparation](#) website.

Fall 1:

_____ SEVI 500: Education of Students with VI

_____ SEVI 510: Anatomy, Pathology and Function of the Eye

_____ SEVI 520: Literary Braille

_____ SEVI 530: Basic Orientation and Mobility

_____ SEVI 550: Assistive Technology

Spring 1:

- _____ SEVI 521: Advanced Braille
- _____ SEVI 540: Communication Systems Used By Persons with VI
- _____ SEVI 541: Instructional Systems for Utilization of Low Vision
- _____ SEVI 580A: Teaching Practicum (1)
- _____ Licensure elective if needed*

Summer 1:

- _____ SEVI 551 (TLSE 580): Advanced Assistive Technology
- _____ SEVI 552: Consultation and Collaboration
- _____ SESE 792: Single Subject Research (if SESE 792 is not offered ETR 520 may be substituted)
- _____ Licensure elective if needed*
- _____ Licensure elective if needed*

Fall 2:

- _____ SEVI 586: Topical Seminar in Teaching Students w/Visual Impairments
- _____ SEVI 581: Student Teaching in Elementary Special Education: Vision Impairments (5)
- _____ SEVI 582: Student Teaching in Secondary Special Education: Vision Impairments (4)

Spring 2:

- _____ Licensure elective if needed*
- _____ Licensure elective if needed*
- _____ Licensure elective if needed*

***Licensure Electives:** These courses may be at the graduate or undergraduate level. Students can decide to take the course prior to enrolling in the program, during their time in the program as allowed by a max of 15 credit hours a semester, or after student teaching. Ideally students should complete this

course work prior to student teaching. Licensure will **not** be granted until all coursework is complete. Please work with your academic advisor to make the appropriate choice.

The program includes a course in (examples of NIU courses):

Child Development – NIU course(s) EPS 505

Foundations of Education – NIU course(s) EPFE 201, 500, 521

Multicultural Education – NIU course(s) LTIC 501, LTIC 520, LTIC 547

Reading – NIU course(s) LTRE 500, LTRE 505, LTRE 516

Foundations or Survey of Special Education – NIU SESE 540

Assessment of Students with Special Needs – NIU ETR 524

Prior to graduation:

Meet with your advisor to determine if all requirements for your master's degree have been completed.

The semester **before** you plan to graduate, complete the Application for Graduation. You should apply using [MyNIU](#). Failure to do so will delay your graduation.

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