

Doctor of Education in Special Education

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Ed.D. Degree Program

The doctoral degree program encourages and supports students working with faculty in cutting-edge research and development related to effective education in the field of disabilities. The Ph.D. and Ed.D. programs are similar, but serve different needs for special educators seeking advanced knowledge and leadership skills. Both degrees require intensive and rigorous study in special education foundations, disability issues, curriculum, teaching, program development, and research. The Graduate Record Examination is required for admission.

Doctor of Education

This degree is designed for master special educators who seek leadership positions in public school and other agencies related to program leadership, administration, development, and evaluation. Students complete a sequence of courses emphasizing applied research knowledge and skills. Specific core and research courses for the Ed.D. are required. In addition to the special education and research skills cores, students complete a structured, supervised field internship and designated hours in one of the doctoral program's areas of specialization, and a dissertation.

Note: Contact your department or program for more information about research skills and responsible scholarship, and the current requirements for doctoral students. Current Lawrence and Edwards Campus policies on Doctoral Research Skills and Responsible Scholarship (<http://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/doctoral-research-skills-requirement/>) are listed in the KU Policy Library.