



Thank you for your interest in our 2011-12 grant from the Virginia Department of Education. To facilitate the sharing of information with those interested, we provide this summary of the particulars for the program. Please do not hesitate to follow-up with further questions if the information below does not provide you with the answers to the questions that you may have.

1. **Focus of grant support as stipulated by the Virginia Department of Education:** public school teachers who are teaching in special education on a provisional license for the special education-general curriculum endorsement.
2. **Grant period:** coursework initiated prior to June 30, 2012.
3. **Grant support:** VDOE grant in the amount of \$600 per course, college matching support in the amount of \$400 per course, and student fees (unless paid by the particular school division) of \$245. (The latter amount would be anticipated to minimally rise for summer courses, 2012).
4. **Courses covered:** grant support would cover any specific graduate course offered with our special education program during the timeframe of the grant if the course is required by an individual teacher in order to complete a specific endorsement requirement for the special education-general curriculum.
5. **Course clarification:** ideally, any specific course needed would have been identified through an analysis of transcripts previously completed by the Virginia Department of Education. Otherwise, we can do a preliminary review of transcripts to identify possible/probable areas of need.
6. **Special consideration-teachers modifying their endorsement in special education:** the grant provides an opportunity for those individuals who may already have the professional license with endorsement in learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, or intellectual disabilities (mental retardation) to upgrade their endorsement to the generic, special education-general curriculum endorsement. Based on past experience, this change typically requires 3-9 credits.
7. **Eligibility confirmation:** teachers need to supply information indicating that they are currently teaching in special education, working with students accessing the general curriculum, and have specific courses needed in order to complete the special education-general curriculum endorsement for their license.
8. **Admissions options:**
 - a. **Non-degree:** for individuals who are interested in taking one or two classes, for example, you would need to be admitted on a non-degree basis. The online application is available at the institutional website: www.Lynchburg.edu; go to the graduate studies site and then follow the information for admissions/applications. We will also need an official copy of your bachelor's transcript as well as any relevant graduate-level transcripts. For individuals who have previously taken coursework at Lynchburg College, these transcripts may already be on file.
 - b. **M.Ed.:** For individuals interested in taking courses for endorsement and applying them to a graduate degree, you would need to apply for admission as a degree-seeking student in special education; follow the above link for further information. This application requires official transcripts, 3 letters of recommendation, a personal essay, and GRE scores.
 - c. **Transition:** Individuals interested in initially taking one or two courses in the spring semester and subsequently applying for degree-seeking status can do so prior to formally being considered for degree admissions beginning with the summer semester. Upon successful

subsequent admission as degree-seeking, relevant courses will be moved to the Master's degree transcript.

9. **Course offerings:** specific classes offered for the spring semester are posted on the college website under "course offerings". The summer schedule is in draft form and further information should be available no later than January, 2012.
10. **Course schedules:** the majority of our graduate classes are taught on campus at either at 4:30 or 7:00 p.m., one night a week. Summer classes are typically taught in an intensive schedule (for example, a three-week class taught four nights a week each of the weeks). Further information is available at the website or by inquiry concerning specific course schedules.
11. **Other graduate programs:** There are four M.Ed. programs in Special Education with the others being early childhood special education, adapted curriculum and autism spectrum disorders. For specific information on all graduate programs at Lynchburg College, please see our website at www.lynchburg.edu/gradprograms.xml.
12. **Further information:** Please contact our office at 434-544-8383 or gradstudies@lynchburg.edu for further information on graduate studies procedures. For specific information about the graduate special education program and/or eligibility for the state grant funding support, please contact Dr. Ed Polloway, Dean of Graduate Studies, 434-544-8655 or Polloway@Lynchburg.edu.

Thank you very much for your interest in our programs.