

# BLINDNESS AND VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS PK-12 LICENSURE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

**Banner Code:** E1-CERG-BVI

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This 26-credit Graduate Certificate provides teacher candidates with the tools they need to work with students who are blind and visually impaired, including those who have multiple disabilities and diverse learner characteristics. Candidates will gain skills and knowledge to support students in a variety of settings, including general and special education, in core content, and the Expanded Core Curriculum. This concentration is designed for candidates seeking Virginia initial teacher licensure in special education blindness and visual impairments (PK-12).

## Admissions & Policies

### Policies

Students must complete the following coursework, either prior to admission to the certificate or in conjunction with certificate coursework. A grade of B- or higher is required.

Code	Title	Credits
EDSE 501 or EDSE 201	Introduction to Special Education	3
EDSE 503 or EDSE 341	Language Development and Reading Language Acquisition and Reading and Writing Development	3
EDSE 511 or EDSE 311	Characteristics of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments Characteristics of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 532 or EDSE 251 & EDSE 353	Positive Behavior Supports Classroom Management and Positive Behavior Supports and Individualized Behavior Supports	3
EDSE 663 or EDSE 354	Collaborative Teamwork to Support Students with Significant Disabilities Consultation and Collaboration	3

Students who have completed graduate or undergraduate coursework in a university program prior to admission to the certificate may request that some courses be waived based on the content in prior coursework.

For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP.6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-8>).

## Requirements

*Formerly (E1-CERG-VILJ)*

## Certificate Requirements

Total credits: 26

This certificate may be pursued on a full- or part-time basis.

Students enrolled in this certificate must earn a B- or higher in all coursework.

### Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
EDAT 522	Assistive Technology for Individuals with Sensory Impairments	3
EDSE 512	Braille Code	3
EDSE 513	Medical and Educational Implications of Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 514	Orientation and Mobility for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	2
EDSE 518	Curriculum and Assessment of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 613	Teaching Methods for Students with Blindness and Visual Impairments	3
EDSE 616	Braille Reading and Writing	3
EDSE 785	Internship: Blindness and Visual Impairments (must complete six credits)	2-6
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>26</b>