

Special Education Administration Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Master of Education in Educational Leadership-Special Education Administration graduate program. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Master of Education in Educational Leadership- Special Education Administration will prepare students for careers as professional educators in leadership positions through lectures and experiential learning activities. This program is designed for those individuals who want to become special education administrators in local and intermediate school districts. This is a 45-credit hour program and can be completed in 2 years as a full-time student or up to eight years as a part-time student. For students who already have a master's degree, a 36-credit approval/certificate program is also available.

The Master of Education in Educational Leadership- Special Education Administration program will allow students to obtain a Michigan Administrator Certificate so that they are eligible for leadership positions in P-12 school systems such as a Special Education Supervisor or Director, Principal, or Superintendent. Growth in this field is on average with other professions at about 4% by the year 2024.

Standard Grand Valley admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

Admission to this program requires that candidates submit one professional or academic letter of recommendation and have a grade point average of 3.0 or better for the last 60 credits of undergraduate coursework. A prior master's degree from a regionally accredited institution will be accepted in lieu of the minimum grade point average.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234.

The special education administration program is known for its comprehensive approach to preparing students for the many facets of special education administration including leadership theory, leading and managing programs and services, special education law, supervision of curriculum and instruction, and special education finance.

Additionally, the Master of Education in Educational Leadership in Special Education Administration is distinguished for a number of reasons. GVSU's College of Education is

accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. The special education administration program curriculum is also aligned with the content standards disseminated by the Council for Exceptional Children/Council for Administrators in Special Education, and the MDE Standards for the Preparation and Practice of Special Education Administrators. This program offers evening, weekend, and summer classes with some courses offered online making it easier for teachers and administrators to plan their schedules. The faculty in this program are leaders in their fields, combining the philosophy of education and the students' needs as practitioners.

That is just a snapshot of the Master of Education in Educational Leadership- Special Education Administration graduate program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Cindi Smith at smithci@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.