

Special Education (Ph.D.)

The right to play on any field. You have earned it. The right to study in any school. You have earned it. The right to hold a job. You have earned it. The right to be anyone's neighbor. You have earned it.

—Eunice Kennedy Shriver

Programs in the Department of Special Education (SPED) are for people who want to improve the lives of children and youth with disabilities. Long ranked as the top special education program in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*, SPED has a reputation for teaching, conducting groundbreaking research, establishing innovative practices, and developing widely used methods.



Doctoral students conduct field work and research, collaborate with faculty and other students on important initiatives, participate in colloquia with experts from various disciplines, and supervise under-

graduate students' field experiences. SPED is closely associated with the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development, one of 14 national centers for research on intellectual and developmental disabilities. This relationship allows students to benefit from the many available resources and programs.

Most graduate students are fully funded through U.S. Department of Education grants. Graduates typically receive multiple offers of employment.

Specializations

- **Early Childhood**—for students who want to serve infants, toddlers, young children, and their families who deal with a wide range of developmental delays including cognitive, communication, social, adaptive behavior, and motor skills.
- **High Incidence**—for those intending to become intervention specialists for children and young adults with reading and math disabilities and persistent behavior problems.
- **Severe Disabilities**—for those who wish to focus on working with students with intellectual disability, autism, multiple disabilities, and other significant needs.
- **Education of Students with Visual Impairments**—for future teachers who want to provide access to the general curriculum and to teach the expanded core curriculum for students with visual impairments, including those with multiple disabilities.

Career Paths

Graduates become university professors, policy makers, and researchers.



Department Admissions Coordinator

Alfred Brady,
graduate admissions coordinator,
alfred.l.brady@vanderbilt.edu
615-322-8195

How to Apply

Visit apply.vanderbilt.edu
There is no fee to apply online.

For more information, visit
peabody.vanderbilt.edu

Priority Application Deadline

December 31 for summer or
fall entrance

Office of Graduate Admissions

615-322-8410
peabody.admissions@vanderbilt.edu

PMB 407833
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, Tennessee 37240-7833

PH.D.



VANDERBILT
PEABODY COLLEGE