



Rock Valley College Transfer Guide Bachelor of Arts in Special Education

Available at:
NEIU Main Campus (Chicago, IL)
El Centro (Chicago, IL)

Why Choose Northeastern?

Northeastern Illinois University is committed to providing an affordable education. That’s why our tuition and fees are among the most affordable of the Illinois public universities. We offer a **tuition guarantee program** that guarantees incoming students the same tuition rate for four years.

Northeastern offers more than 40 undergraduate degree and certificate programs, with classes on weekdays, evenings, weekends, and online. Small class sizes allow for students to pursue a more personal academic experience in one of the most ethnically diverse universities in the nation.

Special Education Program Description

The major in Special Education is designed to prepare undergraduate candidates to become highly proficient in the delivery of instruction and services to all school aged children and adolescents with exceptionalities. The program consists of a 48 credit hour major plus a 24 credit hour cognate (in lieu of a minor). Candidates are selected each October to begin studies in the subsequent spring semester as a cohort. Most coursework is offered during daytime hours.

Contact Information

Northeastern Illinois University Transfer Center: Students who have questions about the program prior to admission may contact the Northeastern Transfer Center at (773) 442-4076 or email TransferSteps@neiu.edu.

Special Education Department: Additional information may be obtained by contacting Effie Kritikos at e-kritikos@neiu.edu.

Admission Requirements

- Students must have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher for all college or university course work attempted. Students must be in good academic standing at the last college or university attended.
- Required documents are: application for admission, \$30 nonrefundable application fee, and official transcripts from all colleges and universities.
- Additional Admission and application materials, including the option to apply online can be found at www.neiu.edu/Transfer.
- Application deadlines are as follows:

Semester Applying	Deadline to Apply	International Student Deadline to Apply
Fall	July 15	June 15
Spring	November 1	October 1
Summer I	April 1	March 1
Summer II	May 1	April 1

Admission Requirements for the Daniel L. Goodwin College of Education for Special Education

- A spontaneous writing sample and/or interview required at the discretion of the Department.
- A minimum of 20 hours working, volunteering or observing students with disabilities. Documentation must be on agency letterhead.
- A minimum 2.75 GPA
- A minimum 30 semester hours (this can be transfer coursework or courses taken at Northeastern)
- Background check
- **One** of the following test criteria must be met before the anticipated semester of student teaching :
 - Passing scores on the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) www.icts.nesinc.com
 - ACT (taken prior to 9/1/2015), composite score of 22 or higher with a minimum score of 19 on Combined English/Writing
 - ACT (taken between 9/1/2015 and 9/9/2016), composite score of 22 or higher with a minimum score of 16 on Writing
 - ACT (taken after 9/9/2016), composite score of 22 or higher with a minimum score of 6 on Writing
 - SAT (taken prior to 3/5/2016), composite score of 1030 (Critical Reading and Mathematics = 1030 or higher) with a minimum score of 450 on Writing
 - SAT (taken after 3/5/2016), composite score of 1110 (Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Mathematics = 1110 or higher) with a minimum score of 26 on Writing and Language

General Education Requirements

Three options are available to students who plan to complete their General Education requirements at Rock Valley College.

- **Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree:** Students who transfer with an approved Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) Model Associate of Arts degree will have met Northeastern Illinois University’s General Education requirements. Students who transfer with an Associate of Science degree granted December 2016 or later may need to take one additional Humanities course and one additional Social and Behavioral Sciences course to meet Northeastern’s General Education requirements.
- **Completion of the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI):** Students who transfer after completing the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) will have met their General Education requirements.
- **Transfer Course Lists for Rock Valley College:** Students may choose to meet their General Education requirements by selecting courses from Northeastern’s Transfer Course Equivalency Guides, available at: www.neiu.edu/Transfer. **When choosing this option, please use the following Northeastern Illinois University General Education guide:**

Northeastern Illinois University General Education Program		
The General Education Program for Special Education requires a minimum of 45 credit hours of courses distributed among 6 areas.		
Northeastern Illinois University Requirement	Credits	Rock Valley College Equivalent (if any)
Math / Quantitative Reasoning – one course (3 hours)	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This requirement can be met by taking MTH 115 or higher at Rock Valley College with a grade of “C” or better.
Social / Behavioral Sciences 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than two courses from the same department may be used.
Natural Sciences 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than two courses from the same department may be used. • One course must have a lab component.
Fine Arts 2 courses (6 hours)	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than one course from the same department may be used.

Humanities 3 courses (9 hours)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than two courses from the same department may be used. No more than two foreign language courses may be used to fulfill this requirement.
Non-General Education University Requirements (9-12 hours)	9-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENG 101 Composition I at Rock Valley College with a grade of "C" or better. ENG 103 Composition II at Rock Valley College with a grade of "C" or better. SPH 131 Fund of Communication at Rock Valley College with a grade of "C" or better. Improving Human Relations requirement – can be met through one of many general education courses. Please see the Rock Valley College Transfer Course Equivalency Guide to find courses meeting Human Relations.

Degree Plan*

D: Degree GECC: General Education Core Curriculum Semester-by-Semester Program Plan for Full-Time Students <i>*All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters</i>					
D	GECC	Semester 1	Rock Valley College Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions
•	•	ENG 101 Composition I (3)	Communication	Writing Requirement Teacher Licensure	DO THIS – Meet with advisor to discuss academic goals and plan coursework DO THIS – Visit your campus Advising Center
•	•	Social Science Course (3)	Social Science	General Education	
•	•	Fine Arts Course (3)	Humanities/Fine Arts	General Education	
•	•	Humanities Course (3)	Humanities/Fine Arts	General Education	
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	
15 Credit Hours					
D	GECC	Semester 2	Rock Valley College Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions
•	•	ENG 103 Composition II (3)	Communication	Teacher Licensure	DO THIS – Mid-term check-in with advisor DO THIS – Apply to NEIU's Guaranteed Admission Program (GAP)
•	•	Life Science or Physical Science Course (3-4)	Life/Physical Science	General Education	
•	•	College Level MATH Course (3-4)	Mathematics	Math/Quantitative Reasoning	
•	•	SPH 131 Fundamentals of Communication (3)	Communication	General Education Teacher Licensure	
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	
15-17 Credit Hours					
D	GECC	Semester 3	Rock Valley College Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions
•	•	Life Science or Physical Science Course (3-4)	Life/Physical Science	General Education	DO THIS – Mid-term check-in with advisor DO THIS – Begin seeking additional four year funding
•	•	Social Science Course (3)	Social Science	General Education	
•	•	Humanities or Fine Arts Course (3)	Humanities/Fine Arts	General Education	
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	DO THIS – Apply for admission to NEIU
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	
15-16 Credit Hours					

D	GECC	Semester 4	Rock Valley College Category	NEIU Category	Next Actions
•	•	Social Science Course (3)	Social Science	General Education	DO THIS – Petition to graduate COMPLETION of Associate of Arts Degree DO THIS – Register for NEIU orientation (once admitted)
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	
•		Elective Course (3)	Elective	Elective	
15 Credit Hours					
MINIMUM TOTAL AA CREDIT HOURS: 60					
WRITTEN DEGREE PLAN CREDIT RANGE: 60-63					

Note:

- All Rock Valley College students must complete a Non-Western Culture course as part of their associate’s degree. See your Rock Valley College advisor for course options.
- Students must apply to the Daniel L. Goodwin College of Education once they are admitted to Northeastern. See requirements and process on Page 2.
- The Special Education program selects students in October, and each cohort begins taking major classes in the subsequent spring semester. Students should apply to Northeastern for the fall semester and take EDFN 306 during their first semester. Completion of or enrollment in EDFN 306 is a requirement of being admitted to the Special Education program.
- All students who earn an Associate of Arts Degree from Rock Valley College enter Northeastern with 64 hours of transfer credit, even if they earned less than 64 credit hours. See the [NEIU Transfer Policy](#) for further information.
- Professional Sequence courses are courses that are a part of the Special Education major and are taken in the sequence listed below.
- Teacher Licensure courses are courses required by the State of Illinois to be licensed to teach Special Education.

Northeastern Illinois University		
<i>All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters</i>		
Fall Semester I	NEIU Category	Next Actions
EDFN 306 Education and Individual Differences	Program Prerequisite	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor
3 Credit Hours		
Spring Semester I	NEIU Category	Next Actions
EDFN 307 Psychology of Instruction and Learning (3)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor DO THIS – Apply for your first clinical experience
SCED 311 WIP: School Curriculum (3)	Professional Sequence	
SPED 371 WIP: Foundations of Special Education (3)	Professional Sequence	
SPED 372 Development & Characteristics of Children and Youth with Exceptional Learning Needs (3)	Professional Sequence	
12 Credit Hours		
Summer Semester I	NEIU Category	Next Actions
SPED 382 Strategies for Differentiating Instruction for Students with Exceptional Learning Needs (3)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor
ELED 302 WIP: Foundation of teaching the English Language Arts (3)	Professional Sequence	
6 Credit Hours		
Fall Semester II	NEIU Category	Next Actions
SPED 383 Informal Assessment and Progress Monitoring (3)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor
SPED 374 Supervised Field Experience I (3)	Professional Sequence	
SPED 395 Technology and Special Education (3)	Professional Sequence	
ELED 310 Elementary and Middle School Math Methods (3)	Professional Sequence	
12 Credit Hours		

Spring Semester II	NEIU Category	Next Actions
SPED 384 Instructional Design for Individuals with Exceptional Learning Needs (3)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor
SPED 377 Supervised Field Experience II (3)	Professional Sequence	
LTCY 311 Fundamentals of Literacy Instruction (3)	Professional Sequence	
SPED 379 Managing Behaviors in the Classroom (3)	Professional Sequence	
12 Credit Hours		
Summer Semester II	NEIU Category	Next Actions
SPED 376 Teaching Learners with Moderate to Severe Disabilities (3)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor
3 Credit Hours		DO THIS – Apply for graduation
Fall Semester III	NEIU Category	Next Actions
SPED 323 Consultation in Special Education (3)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor
BLBC 340 Teaching English Learners in Diverse Classrooms (3)	Professional Sequence	
SPED 385 Community Partnership and Advocacy (2)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with Career Services for career counseling
SPED 316 Professional Development of the Special Educator (1)	Professional Sequence	
SCED 303H Methods of Teaching History in the Secondary School (3)	Professional Sequence	
12 Credit Hours		
Spring Semester III	NEIU Category	Next Actions
SPED 381 Student Teaching SPED (12)	Professional Sequence	DO THIS – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor
12 Credit Hours		DO THIS – Meet with Career Services for career counseling
BACHELOR'S DEGREE MINIMUM TOTAL: 136 CREDIT HOURS		

Financial Aid and Scholarships

For information about financing your education at Northeastern, including Financial Aid and Scholarship opportunities, please see our website: <http://www.neiu.edu/financial-aid/>. You may also contact our Financial Aid Office directly at (773) 442-5016 or email Financial-Aid@neiu.edu. If you are completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Northeastern's federal School code is **001693**.

Provost and Deans Merit Scholarships for TRANSFER students*:

Scholarship	Amount Awarded	Credit Hour Requirement	GPA Requirement	Residency Requirement	NEIU Enrollment Requirement
Provost Merit	\$2,000	60+ credit hours	3.50 GPA	Illinois Residency	Full-Time (12+ credit hours)
Deans Merit	\$1,000	60+ credit hours	3.0 GPA	Illinois Residency	Full-Time (12+ credit hours)

Until all of the scholarships are awarded, students who meet these qualifications will automatically be considered for the Provost and Deans Merit Scholarships at the time of applying for admission to Northeastern. Completing an additional application is not necessary. The Office of Scholarships may be reached at (773) 442-4606 or scholarships@neiu.edu.