



## 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](mailto:TransferSteps@neiu.edu).

**Special Education Department:** Additional information may be obtained by contacting Effie Kritikos at [e-kritikos@neiu.edu](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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 <b>45 credit hours</b> of courses distributed among 6 areas. |         |  |
| Northeastern Illinois University Requirement   | Credits | Rock Valley College Equivalent (if any)  |
| <b>Math / Quantitative Reasoning – one course (3 hours)</b>  | 3       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This requirement can be met by taking MTH 115 or higher at Rock Valley College with a grade of "C" or better.</li> </ul>          |
| <b>Social / Behavioral Sciences<br/>3 courses (9 hours)</b>  | 9       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No more than two courses from the same department may be used.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Natural Sciences<br/>3 courses (9 hours)</b>  | 9       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No more than two courses from the same department may be used.</li> <li>• One course must have a <b>lab</b> component.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Fine Arts<br/>2 courses (6 hours)</b>   | 6       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No more than one course from the same department may be used.</li> </ul>  |

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

### Degree Plan\*

| D: Degree<br>GECC: General Education Core Curriculum<br><b>Semester-by-Semester Program Plan for Full-Time Students</b><br><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 Category  | NEIU Category                                    | Next Actions   |
| •  | •    | ENG 101 Composition I (3)                     | Communication         | Writing Requirement<br>Teacher Licensure         | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with advisor to discuss academic goals and plan coursework<br><br><b>DO THIS</b> – 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   |  |
| <b>15 Credit Hours</b>   |      |   |                       |  |  |
| D  | GECC | Semester 2                                    | Rock Valley Category  | NEIU Category                                    | Next Actions   |
| •  | •    | ENG 103 Composition II (3)                    | Communication         | Teacher Licensure                                | <b>DO THIS</b> – Mid-term check-in with advisor<br><br><b>DO THIS</b> – <a href="#">Apply</a> 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<br>Teacher Licensure |  |
| •  | •    | SPH 131 Fundamentals of Communication (3)     | Communication         | General Education<br>Teacher Licensure           |  |
| •  |      | Elective Course (3)                           | Elective              | Elective   |  |
| <b>15-17 Credit Hours</b>  |      |   |                       |  |  |
| D  | GECC | Semester 3                                    | Rock Valley Category  | NEIU Category                                    | Next Actions   |
| •  | •    | Life Science or Physical Science Course (3-4) | Life/Physical Science | General Education                                | <b>DO THIS</b> – Mid-term check-in with advisor<br><br><b>DO THIS</b> – Begin seeking additional four-year funding<br><br><b>DO THIS</b> – <a href="#">Apply for admission</a> to NEIU |
| •  | •    | Social Science Course (3)                     | Social Science        | General Education                                |  |
| •  | •    | Humanities or Fine Arts Course (3)            | Humanities/Fine Arts  | General Education                                |  |
| •  |      | Elective Course (3)                           | Elective              | Elective   |  |
| •  |      | Elective Course (3)                           | Elective              | Elective   |  |
| <b>15-16 Credit Hours</b>  |      |   |                       |  |  |
| D  | GECC | Semester 4                                    | Rock Valley Category  | NEIU Category                                    | Next Actions   |
| •  | •    | Social Science Course (3)                     | Social Science        | General Education                                | <b>DO THIS</b> – Petition to graduate<br><br><b>COMPLETION</b> of Associate of Arts Degree<br><br><b>DO THIS</b> – <a href="#">Register for NEIU orientation</a> (once admitted)       |
| •  |      | Elective Course (3)                           | Elective              | Elective   |  |
| •  |      | Elective Course (3)                           | Elective              | Elective   |  |
| •  |      | Elective Course (3)                           | Elective              | Elective   |  |
| •  |      | Elective Course (3)                           | Elective              | Elective   |  |
| <b>15 Credit Hours</b>   |      |   |                       |  |  |
| <b>MINIMUM TOTAL AA CREDIT HOURS: 60</b><br><b>WRITTEN DEGREE PLAN CREDIT RANGE: 60-63</b>   |      |   |                       |  |  |

**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 TESL 301 during their first semester, while they transition into the 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.

| <b>Northeastern Illinois University</b>  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <i>All plans can be modified to fit the needs of part-time students by adding additional semesters</i> |   |   |
| Fall Semester I  | NEIU Category                               |   |
| TESL 301 The English Language for Teachers (3)   | Professional Sequence                       | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor  |
| <b>3 Credit Hours</b>  |   |   |
| Spring Semester I  | NEIU Category                               | Next Actions  |
| SCED 311 WIP: School Curriculum (3)  | Professional Sequence<br>WIP Requirement    | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor<br><br><b>DO THIS</b> – Apply for your first clinical experience |
| SPED 272 Development & Characteristics of Children & Youth w/ Exceptional Learning (3)                 | Professional Sequence                       |   |
| BLBC 339 Culturally Responsive Teaching in Diverse Classrooms (3)                                      | Professional Sequence<br>ELE-X Requirement  |   |
| BLBC 340 Teaching English Learners in Diverse Classrooms (3)   | Professional Sequence                       |   |
| <b>12 Credit Hours</b>   |   |   |
| Summer Semester I  | NEIU Category                               | Next Actions  |
| SPED 382 Strategies for Differentiating Instruction for Students with Exceptional Learning Needs (3)   | Professional Sequence                       | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor  |
| ELED 302 WIP: Foundation of Teaching the English Language Arts (3)                                     | Professional Sequence<br>WIP Requirement    |   |
| <b>6 Credit Hours</b>  |   |   |
| Fall Semester II   | NEIU Category                               | Next Actions  |
| SPED 383 Informal Assessment and Progress Monitoring (3)   | Professional Sequence                       | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor  |
| SPED 374 Supervised Field Experience I (3)   | Professional Sequence<br>ELE-DS Requirement |   |
| SPED 395 Technology and Special Education (3)  | Professional Sequence                       |   |
| ELED 310 Elementary and Middle School Math Methods (3)   | Professional Sequence                       |   |
| <b>12 Credit Hours</b>   |   |   |
| Spring Semester II   | NEIU Category                               | Next Actions  |
| SPED 377 Supervised Field Experience II (3)  | Professional Sequence<br>ELE-DS Requirement | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor  |
| LTCY 311 Fundamentals of Literacy Instruction (3)  | Professional Sequence                       |   |
| SPED 379 Managing Behaviors in the Classroom (3)   | Professional Sequence                       |   |
| <b>9 Credit Hours</b>  |   |   |
| Summer Semester II   | NEIU Category                               | Next Actions  |
| SPED 376 Teaching Learners with Moderate to Severe Disabilities (3)                                    | Professional Sequence                       | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor<br><b>DO THIS</b> – Apply for graduation                         |
| <b>3 Credit Hours</b>  |   |   |

| Fall Semester III  | NEIU Category                               | Next Actions   |
|--|---|--|
| SPED 385 Community Partnership and Advocacy (3)                    | Professional Sequence                       | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor |
| SCED 303R Materials & Methods for Teaching High School Science (4) | Professional Sequence                       |  |
| BLBC 342 Assessment in the Bilingual Classroom (3)                 | Professional Sequence                       |  |
| BLBC 341 Methods of Teaching in Bilingual Classrooms (3)           | Professional Sequence                       |  |
| <b>13 Credit Hours</b>   |   |  |
| Spring Semester III  | NEIU Category                               | Next Actions   |
| SPED 381 Student Teaching SPED (12)                                | Professional Sequence<br>ELE-DS Requirement | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with your Goodwin College of Education advisor |
|  |   | <b>DO THIS</b> – Meet with Career Services for career counseling     |
| <b>12 Credit Hours</b>   |   |  |
| <b>COMPLETION</b> of Bachelor of Arts Degree                       |   |  |
| <b>BACHELOR'S DEGREE MINIMUM TOTAL: 134 CREDIT HOURS</b>           |   |  |

## Financial Aid and Scholarships

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.

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](mailto: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](mailto:scholarships@neiu.edu).