



WELCOME

The School of Education at USC Upstate is proud to offer the only Master of Education in Visual Impairment in South Carolina! With 50% of current teachers of students with visual impairment expected to retire within the next three to five years, it is a perfect time to consider becoming a teacher of students with visual impairments. USC Upstate has worked closely with the S.C. Vision Education Partnership and the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind to design a high-quality program that can be completed in just two years. Courses are offered through distance delivery during the fall and spring semesters and on campus in the summer. Throughout the program of study you will learn how to assist children who are blind or who have low vision to achieve their educational goals and prepare for a promising future!

For More Information Contact Graduate Programs:

Ph: 864-503-5573

E-mail: soegradprog@uscupstate.edu

Website: www.uscupstate.edu/graduate/visualimpairment



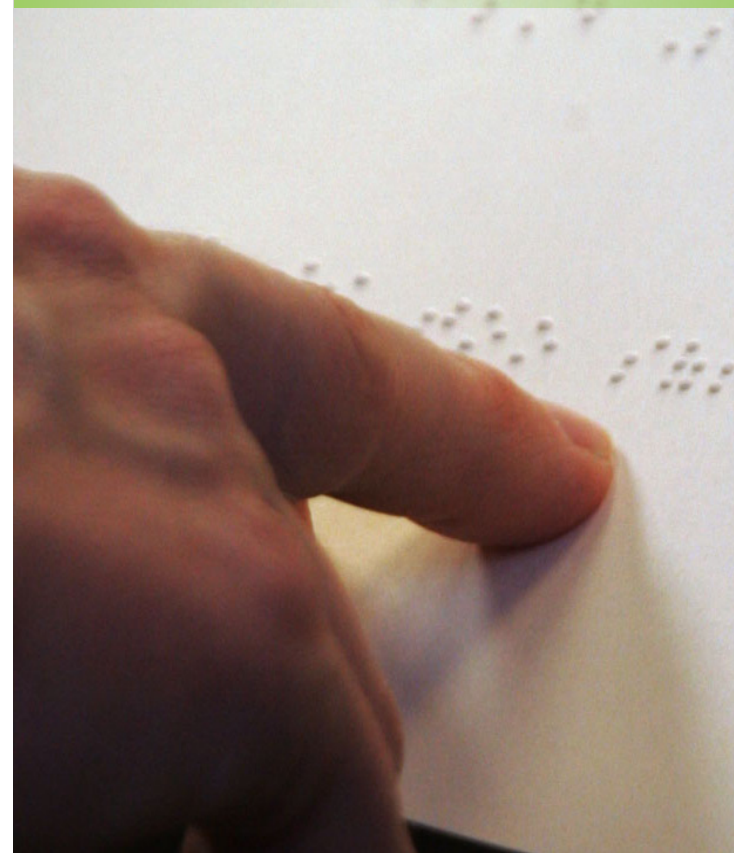
UPSTATE

University of South Carolina Upstate

Visual Impairment Program
School of Education
USC Upstate
800 University Way
Spartanburg, SC 29303

Visual Impairment education

A Master's Degree Program at
University of South Carolina Upstate



In cooperation with The South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind and The South Carolina Vision Education Partnership

UPSTATE

University of South Carolina Upstate

www.uscupstate.edu/graduate

“I had always dreamed of getting my master’s degree, but I could not figure a way to do it. The visual impairment program at USC Upstate allowed me to achieve my dream. It was a wonderful opportunity. I wanted to make a difference in the someone’s life and I feel that being a teacher of the visually impaired gives me the chance to impact a child’s life and future. I am so grateful.”

Kathy Goodwin
’11, teacher at South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind



“After completing my teacher certification in Visual Impairment, I am pleased to report that I am happier than I have ever been professionally, and I feel well prepared to make a positive difference for my students. The very best thing about the program at USC Upstate is that the instructors are genuinely concerned about each one of us as individuals.”

Mary Holley,
Teacher in Oconee County who is completing courses necessary for add-on certification and her Master’s plus 30.

BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

- Offers a variety of clinical experiences at schools to apply what you are learning
- Approved by the S.C. Department of Education
- S.C. School for the Deaf and the Blind makes housing available for summer offerings at no cost
- Courses offered through distance delivery and on campus
- Small class sizes
- Prepares you to effectively meet the educational needs of students with visual impairments
- A comprehensive and culturally responsive program of study, including braille, assistive technology, and orientation and mobility

THE NEED

To date, 100 percent of our graduates have been offered positions as teachers of students with visual impairment, and yet many positions remain unfilled due to the lack of qualified teachers.

ADMISSIONS

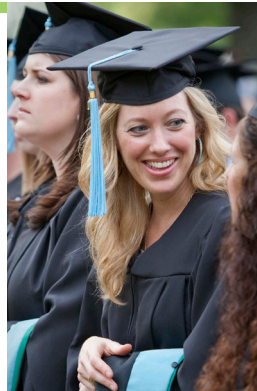
Master of Education candidates seeking admission must submit:

- Graduate application along with application fee
- Copy of valid teaching certificate
- Two letters of recommendation
- Official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate coursework
- A score of at least 390 on the MAT or minimum scores of 400 on both the verbal and quantitative scales of the GRE*

Re-Certification and Add-on Certification Candidates must submit:

- Non-degree seeking application form along with an application fee
- Copy of a valid teaching certificate

*Applicants may apply for conditional admission if they obtained a GPA of less than 2.5 on all undergraduate coursework OR were unable to attain minimal criterion scores on either the MAT or GRE after 2 attempts.



SUGGESTED SEQUENCE OF COURSEWORK

For Obtaining A Masters In Two Years

First Year

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|-------------------|---|
| Summer Session I | SVIP 610 Nature & Needs of Learners w/ Visual Impairment SVIP 717 Orientation & Mobility |
| Summer Session II | SVIP 650 Anatomy, Physiology & Disorders of the Visual System |
| Fall | SVIP 675 Functional Low Vision Assessment & Intervention SVIP 705 Literary Braille Code |
| Spring | SVIP 706 Advanced Braille (includes Nemeth Code) SVIP 730 Assessment and Educational Methods |

Second Year

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|------------------|--|
| Summer Session I | SVIP 712 Assistive and Instructional Technology SERM 700 Intro to Research in Education |
| Fall | SVIP 724 Visual Impairment & Multiple Disabilities SEPS 725 Advanced Study of K-12 Curriculum |
| Spring | SVIP 735 Practicum in Visual Impairment SLCY 722 Developing Literacy (Pre K—Grade 2) |

Although you may obtain your M. Ed in two years, you have six years to complete your degree.

