

Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) Degree in Education and Class AA Teacher Certification

Welcome to UAB where an Ed.S. degree and Class AA certification are available in discipline-specific areas as well as in Teacher Leadership and Collaborative Teaching (reading, urban, autism, and visually impaired). Based on constructivism, this program uses a standards-based approach for meeting the evolving needs of students, educators, and school systems. With teacher leader courses on all checklists, this Ed.S. program prepares teachers to assume leadership roles in curriculum development and instructional delivery. It also provides experienced teachers with collaborative skills for serving as reflective practitioners in guiding school change as well as with mentoring techniques to positively impact student achievement and school improvement. UAB's Ed.S. program is unique in how it combines online support from Blackboard with a variety of delivery formats: **blended courses** (online and face-to-face evenings), **professional learning communities**, **flexible summer programming**, **totally online platforms**, and **Saturday classes**.

	page
Class AA Teacher Leader Certification	2
Class AA Certifications in Elementary, Secondary, and ESL	3
Class AA Certifications Related to Special Education	4
Ed.S. Program Faculty and Instructors	5
Preparation for Seeking Admission to the Ed.S.	6
Steps for Submitting Admission Application	7
Important Dates and Useful Acronyms	8
Responsibilities after Being Admitted	9
Graduation and Teacher Certification	9
"To-Do" List	10
Inquiry Sheet from Prospective Ed.S. Students	11

Driving and Parking Directions are provided at: <http://www.uab.edu/education/home/about/driving-directions>

*In this information packet, the words "student" and "candidate" are used interchangeably.
Candidate refers to current and prospective students in UAB's School of Education (SOE).*

The following information corresponds to UAB policies and procedures in effect on the date of this packet and also to codes and regulations mandated by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE). Updated versions of this packet will take precedence over what is stated here. Such updates are usually in response to changes in ALSDE codes. The ALSDE periodically updates its codes to provide Alabama schools with educators prepared to meet the changing needs of today's society. NOTE: If an updated certification checklist offers more advantages to already-admitted students, these students may request switching to the updated checklist.

Dr. Lynn Kirkland, Department Chair
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
EB 119, 205-934-8358, lkirk@uab.edu

Dr. Susan Spezzini, Program Director
Secondary Education, Single-Subject K-12, and Teacher Leader
EB 120, 205-934-8357, spezzini@uab.edu

Dr. Kay Emfinger, Program Director
Elementary Education, Early Childhood, and Special Education
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Class AA Teacher Leader Certification

www.uab.edu/soestudentservices/images/checklists/classaa/Teacher_Leader_Checklist_9.12.11.pdf

The Teacher Leader Program prepares teachers to become dynamic leaders and effective change agents at the site and district levels by developing their capacity as professional development facilitators, instructional coaches, lead teachers, department chairs, curriculum coordinators, and/or program area specialists. The Teacher Leader Program differs from the Instructional Leadership Program which leads to employment as an assistant principal, principal, or superintendent.

Teacher Leader (6 modules on a rotating schedule)		Delivery	Projected Timetable	Credit Hours
EPR 700-L-R	Data-based Decision Making	<i>Blended</i>	<i>Every summer</i>	5
EDL 735-L-R	Professional Leadership	<i>Blended</i>	<i>Summer 2013 2015, ...</i>	5
EDC 731-L-R	Curricular Design and Implementation	<i>Blended</i>	<i>Fall 2013, 2015, ...</i>	5
ECT 720-L-R	Universal Design for Learning	<i>Online</i>	<i>Spring 2014, 2016, ...</i>	5
EDC 732-L-R	Culturally and Linguistically Relevant Instruction	<i>PLCs</i>	<i>Fall 2014, 2016, ...</i>	5
EDL 711-L-R	Collaborative Problem Solving	<i>Blended</i>	<i>Spring 2015, 2017, ...</i>	5
Required if not previously completed: ECY 600 Introduction to Exceptional Learners				30-33

Career Enhancement and Advancement

State-of-the-art instructional strategies for you to meet the evolving needs of diverse learners in your classes
Collaborative skills for you to serve as a reflective practitioner in guiding school change and effectiveness
Mentoring techniques for you to positively impact student achievement and school improvement

Innovative, Interdisciplinary Program

Varied delivery formats of the teacher leader (TL) courses

Blended courses: face-to-face evening classes alternating with online sessions
Courses with professional learning communities (PLCs) and Saturday sessions
Totally online courses

1 academic focus each term over a 2-year period

1 TL module per term (fall, spring, summer): offered on a rotating schedule
2 instructors per term: a UAB faculty member and a school practitioner
5 credit hours per term: eligibility for financial aid

3 courses in each TL module, specially designed with an interactive, learner-centered approach

Standards-based content course = 3 credit hours (course numbers and titles listed above)
Inquiry-focused field experience course = 1 credit hour (course number followed by an L)
Research course based on a school problem = 1 credit hour (course number followed by R)

Prerequisites

Class A certification: teaching field, instructional leadership, counseling, library media or school psychometry
3 full years of full-time teaching: EXP <http://public.alsde.edu/office/otl/tc/Renewals/SUPPLEMENT%20EXP.pdf>
3.25 GPA on degree-issuing master's transcript from a regionally accredited college
Miller Analogies Test (MAT) with score of 388+ or Graduate Record Exam (GRE) with score of 290 current or 850 former
Portfolio showing TL potential: http://www.uab.edu/esl/images/Teacher_Leader_Admission_Process.pdf

Admission Process

- ___ Read http://www.uab.edu/esl/images/Teacher_Leader_Admission_Process.pdf
- ___ Contact the TL Program Director: Dr. Susan Spezzini, 205-934-8357 spezzini@uab.edu
- ___ Attend an Ed.S. Information Session and receive this Information Packet for Ed.S. Students
- ___ Read the Teacher Leader and Admission sections at <http://www.uab.edu/esl/eds-degree-a-certifications> and follow the admission instructions
- ___ Read UAB's TL handbook: http://www.uab.edu/esl/images/Teacher_Leader_Handbook.pdf
- ___ Email an attachment of your EXP form to Ms. Sha'Niethia Johnson (araccot@uab.edu)
- ___ Set up an application account at <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=uab-grad>, log-out and then log-in
- ___ Submit degree-seeking application by deadline: Nov. 1st for spring, April 1st for summer, July 1st for fall and select the following: Degree=Ed.S., Program=Education, Concentration=Teacher Leadership
- ___ Prepare your TL portfolio and participate in a TL interview <http://www.uab.edu/ci/teacher-leadership>
- ___ Receive admission letter from the Graduate School and then process your BlazerID
- ___ Register for class and pay tuition: \$1,905 for 5-hour module in 2012-13 (NOTE: Yearly increments may occur.)

Class AA Certifications in Elementary, Secondary, and ESL

Required if not previously completed: ECY 600 Introduction to Exceptional Learners (3 credit hours)

Elementary/Early Childhood Education *(currently under revision)*

		<i>Delivery Format</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
EDC 707	Introduction to Teacher Leadership	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
EDC 711	Analysis and Evaluation of Teaching	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
EDC 720	Problems and Issues in Education	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
EEC 692	Curriculum Projects	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
EEC 695	Practicum in Supervision in EEC	<i>Summer program</i>	2
EEC 660	Readings in Teaching and Learning <i>(if not already completed)</i>	<i>Blended or online</i>	3 (or 0)
EEC 694	Field Study <i>(4 hours for students who had already taken EEC 660)</i>	<i>Blended or online</i>	1 (or 4)
EPR 596	Action Research using Qualitative Methods	<i>Online or weekly evening</i>	3
electives	Advisor-approved courses at 600 level or above with these prefixes: ECE, EDC, EEC, EDR, EPR, EDL, ECT, EESL, EDF	<i>Blended or online</i>	9

Prerequisite: Class A in Elementary/Early Childhood (or Class B in ELE/ECE and Class A in ESL)

30-33

Secondary Education in a Teaching Field *(currently under revision)*

		<i>Delivery Format</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
EDC 707	Introduction to Teacher Leadership	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
EDC 711	Analysis and Evaluation of Teaching	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
EDC 720	Problems and Issues in Education	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
EPR 596	Action Research using Qualitative Methods	<i>Online or weekly evening</i>	3
EHS 720	Individual Research in Education	<i>Blended or online</i>	3
Elective	Advisor-approved course at 600 level or above with one of these prefixes: EHS, EDC, EDF, EDT, EPR, EEC, EESL, ECY or ECT		3
Teaching Field*	Courses approved in advance by SOE faculty advisor	<i>Weekly evening</i>	12

Prerequisite: Class A in Secondary Teaching Field (or Class B in Teaching Field and Class A in ESL)

30-33

***Teaching Field:** ALSDE-approved courses at 500+ level (selected in conjunction with faculty advisor)

English Language Arts	12 credit hours (9 English and 3 in another area)
Mathematics	12 credit hours in math: Courses with MA prefix
Science	<i>General</i> 12 credit hours with courses from at least two areas listed below
	Biology 12 credit hours in biology: Courses with BY prefix
	Chemistry 12 credit hours in chemistry: Courses with CH prefix
	Physics 12 credit hours in physics Courses with an PH prefix
Social Science	12 credit hours with courses from at least two areas listed below: History: Courses with an HY prefix Political Science: Courses with a PSC prefix Anthropology: ANTH 605, 606, 607, 609, 655, 657, 660, 664, 675 Criminal justice: JS 540, 541, 544, 583, 601, 603 Economics: EC 520, EC 540 Psychology: PY 702, 703, 704, 705, 707, 708, 709 Public administration: MPA 601, 605, 662, 668 Sociology: SOC 716, 740, 755, 759, 760, 775, 778
	History 12 credit hours in history: Courses with HY prefix

English as a Second Language (ESL)

		<i>Delivery Format</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
EPR 700-L-R	Data-based Decision Making	<i>Blended (summer)</i>	5
ECT 720-L-R	Universal Design for Learning	<i>Online (spring '14, '16, ...)</i>	5
EDC 731-L-R	Curricular Design and Implementation	<i>Blended (fall '13, '15, ...)</i>	5
Teaching Field	EESL 647 Instruction and Assessment: Reading and Writing	<i>Blended (fall)</i>	3
	EESL 657 Instruction and Assessment: Listening & Speaking	<i>Blended (spring)</i>	3
	EDC 732 or an advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	<i>PLCs (fall '14 ...) or blended</i>	3
	EESL 617(3), EESL 627(3), EESL 637(3), EESL 687(3), and/or an advisor-approved EESL-prefix courses, OR National Board Certification English as New Language (6)	<i>Varies</i>	6

Prerequisite: Class A certification in ESL

30-33

Class AA Certifications Related to Special Education

PREREQUISITE: Class A Certification in Collaborative Education, K-6 or 6-12

Required if not previously completed: ECY 600 Introduction to Exceptional Learners

Collaborative Teacher: Reading

		<i>Delivery Format</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
EDL 711-L-R	Collaborative Problem Solving	<i>Blended (spring '15, '17, ...)</i>	5
EPR 700-L-R	Data-Based Decision Making	<i>Blended (summers)</i>	5
EDC 732-L-R	Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction	<i>PLCs (fall '14, '16, ...)</i>	5
EDR 650	Teaching Reading P-12	<i>Online</i>	3
EDR 653	Literature for grades P-12	<i>Online</i>	3
EDR 655	Reading Assessment and Evaluation	<i>Online</i>	3
EDR 656	Reading Strategies for Students with Reading Difficulties	<i>Online</i>	3
EDR 659	Research and Problems in Reading	<i>Online</i>	3
EDR 690	Internship in Remedial Reading	<i>Summer</i>	3
			33-36

Collaborative Special Education: Autism Spectrum Disorders

		<i>Delivery Format</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
EPR 700-L-R	Data Based Decision Making	<i>Blended (summer)</i>	5
EDL 735-L-R	Professional Leadership	<i>Blended (summer)</i>	5
ECT 679	Advanced Topics in Special Education Law	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
ECT 700	Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD): Introduction	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
ECT 701	ASD: Application of Assessment Information	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
ECT 702	ASD: Methods for moderate to severe functioning	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
ECT 703	ASD: Methods for high functioning learners & Asperger's	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
ECT 704	ASD: Collaboration and Consultation	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
ECT 705	ASD: Seminars in Advanced Methods	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	2
ECT 710	ASD: Practicum (if required)	<i>TBA</i>	3
			33-36

Collaborative Teacher: Urban Special Education

		<i>Delivery Format</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
EDL 711-L-R	Collaborative Problem Solving	<i>Blended (spring '15, '17, ...)</i>	5
ECT 720-L-R	Universal Design for Learning	<i>Online (spring '14, '16, ...)</i>	5
EDC 732-L-R	Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction	<i>PLCs (fall '14, '16, ...)</i>	5
EPR 596	Introduction to Qualitative Methods	<i>Online or weekly evenings</i>	3
EPR 607	Microcomputer Applications to Statistical Methods	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	1
EPR 608	Statistical Methods and Action Research	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
EDF 600/700	Urban Education	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
ECT 730	Issues in Urban Special Education	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
EDL 612	Issues in Urban Special Education	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
			31-34

Visual Impairments: Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

		<i>Delivery Format</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
EDL 711-L-R	Collaborative Problem Solving	<i>Blended (spring '15, '17, ...)</i>	5
EDL 735-L-R	Professional Leadership	<i>Blended (summers)</i>	5
EPR 596	Introduction to Qualitative Methods	<i>Online or weekly evenings</i>	3
EPR 607	Microcomputer Applications to Statistical Methods	<i>Weekly evenings</i>	1
EPR 608	Statistical Methods and Action Research	<i>Weekly evenings</i>	3
ECY 689	Advanced Topics in Special Education	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
VIS 670	Intermediate O&M Skills	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
VIS 671	Intermediate O&M Seminar	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
VIS 672	Advanced O&M Skills	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
VIS 673	Advanced O&M Seminar	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
VIS 674	Internship in O&M	<i>Evenings: weekly or blended</i>	3
			35-38

Faculty who Teach and/or Advise in the Ed.S. Program

Teaching Fields with Class AA Certification	Faculty and Adjuncts (*)	Office	Contact Information
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Teacher Leader

Teacher Leader	Dr. Lee Meadows	EB 118	lmeadows@uab.edu 907-5371
	Dr. Susan Spezzini	EB 120	spezzini@uab.edu 934-8357
	Dr. Monique Witherspoon*	EB 119	mwithers@uab.edu 934-5371

Early Childhood/Elementary & Reading

Early Childhood (Birth-3rd)/ Elementary Education (P-6)	Dr. Lois Christensen	EB 109	lmchrist@uab.edu 934-8362
	Dr. Kay Emfinger	EB 107	emfinger@uab.edu 934-7003
	Dr. James Ernest	EB 117	jernest@uab.edu 934-8360
	Dr. Grace Jepkemboi	EB 106	memoi@uab.edu 934-6674
	Dr. Constance Kamii	EB 116A	ckamii@uab.edu 934-9669
Reading (P-12)	<i>And also Early Childhood/Elementary:</i>		
	Dr. Lynn Kirkland	EB 119	lkirk@uab.edu 934-8358
	Dr. Maryann Manning (emerita)	EB 118	mmanning@uab.edu 934-5371
	Dr. Kathleen Martin (emerita)	EB 118	kathmart@uab.edu 934-5371
	Dr. Sue Seay	EB 111	sueseay@uab.edu 975-6710
	Dr. Deborah Strevy	EB 103	dstrevy@uab.edu 934-5419

Secondary & ESL

English Language Arts	Dr. Tonya Perry	EB 110A	tperry@uab.edu 934-7896
	Dr. Michele Jean Sims	EB 108	mjsims@uab.edu 934-8361
Mathematics	Dr. Tommy Smith	EB 122	tsmith@uab.edu 934-8089
Science	General Science		
	Biology		
	Chemistry		
	Physics		
Social Science	Gen. Soc. Science		
	History		
English as a Second Language (P-12)	Dr. Susie Olmstead-Wang*	EB 118	olmstes@uab.edu 934-5371
	Dr. Rebecca Oxford*	EB 119	roxford@uab.edu 934-5371
	Dr. Susan Spezzini	EB 120	spezzini@uab.edu 934-8357

Special Education

Autism Spectrum Disorders	Dr. Karen Dahle	EB 102	kbdahle@uab.edu 975-6176
Visual Impairments	Ms. Carol Allison	EB 232-E	callison@uab.edu 975-5481
	Dr. Diane Pevsner	EB 232-I	dpevsner@uab.edu 975-5351
	Dr. Mary Jean Sanspree	WORB 110C	sanspree@uab.edu 934-6721/3

Preparations for Seeking Admission to the Ed.S.

1. Learn about UAB's Ed.S. program

Contact a Program Director: Dr. Susan Spezzini (spezzini@uab.edu) or Dr. Kay Emfinger (emfinger@uab.edu)
Read the following documents:

Information packet for Ed.S. students (which is what you are reading right now)

Website for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction (C&I): www.uab.edu/ci

Class AA certification checklist for your targeted teaching field (subject to change)

<http://www.uab.edu/soestudentservices/general-information/checklists>

Attend an information session for prospective Ed.S. students: biweekly on Thursdays at 5:00 pm (EB 120)

NOTE: Please confirm your attendance by sending an email to Dr. Spezzini spezzini@uab.edu

Complete *Inquiry Sheet from Prospective Ed.S. Students* (page 11) and give it to a program director.

2. Fulfill the admission criteria required by the ALSDE

a) Valid Class A Alabama teacher certification in the field required for the targeted Class AA certification

b) 3.25 GPA unrounded on degree-issuing master's transcript from a regionally accredited college

c) Background clearance posted at <https://tcert.alsde.edu/Portal/Public/Pages/SearchCerts.aspx>

NOTE: Newcomers to Alabama may need fingerprints taken; register at www.cogentid.com/AL.

d) Maximum of 5 courses on certification checklist before being unconditionally admitted to the Ed.S. program

NOTE: Teacher Leader candidates are not allowed to take any courses prior to program admission.

e) Admission to the Teacher Leader program: EXP form showing at least 3 years of full time teaching

3. Fulfill the admission criteria required by UAB's Graduate School gradschool@uab.edu

1720 2nd Avenue-HUC 511; Birmingham, AL 35294-1150 (TEL 205-934-8227; fax 205-934-8413)

a) Official transcripts from all colleges attended (even if just one course) sent by issuing institution to 2 addresses:

UAB Graduate School, 1720 2nd Avenue South-HUC 511, Birmingham AL 35294-1150

SOE Office of Student Services (OSS), 1720 2nd Ave South-EB 100; Birmingham, AL 35294-1250

Candidates who obtained an earlier degree at UAB should check if these transcripts are still on file.

b) Immunizations (measles/mumps/rubella and diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus) and negative tuberculosis test

c) Miller Analogies Test—MAT (score of 388) <http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=121822>

OR Graduate Record Exam—GRE (score of 290 current or 850 former) <http://www.ets.org/gre>

Upon taking the exam, you must request that a score report be sent directly to UAB's Graduate School.

For most students, the MAT offers greater advantages than the GRE. The MAT is shorter, less expensive and conducted at UAB several times a week. Students can usually improve their MAT score by marking "C" on all questions they don't know. For additional strategies, contact Dr. Spezzini.

If your MAT or GRE score report is from 5+ years ago, email it to Dr. Spezzini or Dr. Emfinger as an attachment so that an appeal can be sent to the Graduate School for accepting an expired score.

d) Degree-seeking application submitted online by deadline for targeted term:

November 1st for admission to spring, April 1st for summer, and July 1st for fall

a) Create application account: <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=uab-grad> (log-out and then log-in)

b) Submit a degree-seeking application

c) Pay application fee of \$45 (Int'l = \$65)—Highly recommended that students pay online by credit card.

d) Provide names of 3 people for recommendations (UAB will automatically send them a form by email.)

4. (For candidates to the Teacher Leader Ed.S. program)

a) Admission portfolio with evidence of Teacher Leader potential, based on the guidelines at this website:

http://www.uab.edu/esl/images/Teacher_Leader_Admission_Process.pdf

b) EXP form filled out by your school(s) showing at least 3 full years of full-time teaching and sent by the issuing institution directly to Ms. Sha'Niethia Johnson at araccot@uab.edu

Steps for Submitting Admission Application

1. Submit your degree-seeking application and accompanying documents by the admission deadline for the targeted term:
Nov. 1st for admission to the spring term
April 1st for admission to the summer term
July 1st for admission to the fall term
If the deadline has passed for submitting a degree-seeking application and you are interested in a program other than Teacher Leader, you can begin taking courses by submitting a non-degree seeking application to the Graduate School. Go to the *ApplyYourself* website: <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=uab-grad>. Create an application account, write down your user name and password, log-out and then log back in, select non-degree seeking, and mark education as your intended major. NOTE: (a) With non-degree status, you can only take 12 credit hours towards your degree. (2) While taking courses with non-degree seeking status in the Graduate School, you are not eligible for financial aid. NOTE: *Teacher Leader candidates must have degree-seeking status before taking any courses on their targeted Ed.S. checklist.*
2. By the deadline, submit a degree-seeking application online to UAB's Graduate School: gradschool@uab.edu
1720 2nd Avenue-HUC 511; Birmingham, AL 35294-1150 (TEL 205-934-8227; fax 205-934-8413)
Go to the ApplyYourself website: <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=uab-grad>
Create an application account, write down your ApplyYourself username and password, and then log-out.
Return to your ApplyYourself account, log-in, and submit your application.
Insert a well-written and polished essay (*Suggestion: Carefully write and edit your essay before filling out the application*)
Include the names and email addresses of three people for letters of recommendation
NOTE: *When you submit your application, UAB will automatically email a recommendation form to each of these people.*
Select the following categories on the application form:
School: Education **Degree:** Ed.S. **Program:** Education
Concentration: Teacher Leadership, Elementary, ESL, Secondary (math, English, history, general social science, biology, chemistry, physics, or general science), or Special Education (reading, autism, urban, or VI)
3. Pay an application fee of \$45 (\$60 for international candidates). It is highly recommended that you pay this fee online with a credit card. NOTE: *Mailing a check may delay the application process by several weeks.*
4. Periodically check the status of your application by clicking here:
<http://www.uab.edu/graduate/area-3/prospective-students/213-check-admission-status>
You may also inquire about your status by contacting the Graduate School (205-934-8227) gradschool@uab.edu.
Once you receive confirmation that all of your application materials have been received, it will take approximately 6 to 8 weeks for your application to be processed. If you are experiencing difficulties in confirming the status of your application materials, you should contact Dr. Susan Spezzini (spezzini@uab.edu) or Dr. Kay Emfinger (emfinger@uab.edu).
5. Scan your health records and send them as email attachments to UAB's One Stop Shop at submitmyshots@uab.edu
Immunizations: measles/mumps/rubella and diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus
Negative tuberculosis test (3-year validity)
6. **Non-native speakers of English:** Oral and written language assessments at the Graduate School naramor3@uab.edu
International applicants: 90 on the internet-based TOEFL with a 4 in writing
International applicants must meet additional requirements listed here: <http://main.uab.edu/Sites/students/32678/>
7. If admitted, you will receive a letter from the Graduate School congratulating you on your admission as a degree-seeking student to the Ed.S.. Your admission letter will provide the following information:
Your student number (letter "B" followed by 8 digits) NOTE: *You will need this number for identification purposes.*
Your degree: Ed.S.
Your major/program: education
Your concentration: teacher leadership, elementary, secondary, ESL, special education (reading, autism, urban, VI)
Your residency status: either as a resident (with in-state tuition) or as a non-resident (with out-of-state tuition)
Be sure to read this letter very carefully in order to make sure that all of the above information is correct. If you have concerns about the information in your admission letter, be sure to contact Dr. Spezzini or Dr. Emfinger.
8. Follow the instructions in your admission letter from the Graduate School with respect to processing your BlazerID.
You must process your BlazerID at the following website: <https://idm.blazernet.uab.edu/bid/reg>
If you already have a BlazerID from an earlier degree at UAB, you need to activate it by going to this website.
Your BlazerID will also serve as your UAB email account.

Responsibilities after being Admitted to UAB

1. The day after you process your BlazerID, you will be able to register for class. You should consult with your Program Director prior to registering for courses. Upon registering, check when the early deadline is for paying 50% of your tuition. If you do not pay by this deadline, you will be automatically withdrawn from your courses and must pay a reinstatement fee.
Tuition and fees = \$1,200 for 3-hour graduate education course in 2012-13. (NOTE: Yearly increments may occur.)
2. As needed, you should seek information from the following offices on campus:
Calendar: <https://www.uab.edu/students/academics/academic-calendar>
Registrar 205-934-8222 (Hill University Center: HUC 250) registrar@uab.edu
Class registration: <http://main.uab.edu/Sites/students/services/registration/classes/>
Tuition payment: <https://www.uab.edu/students/current/paying-for-college/detailed-tuition-and-fees>
Cashier—Student Accounting: 205-934-3570 (HUC 322)
Financial Aid 205-934-8223 (HUC 317) <http://main.uab.edu/Sites/students/32625/>
Student ID Card: <http://main.uab.edu/Sites/students/facilities-finance/50702/>
3. After starting your first course, you must purchase an online TaskStream account to submit key assessments for each Ed.S. module. After creating this account, you should post all of the following admission artifacts: your Class A certification from the ALSDE, the certification checklist on which you were admitted, and your EXP form (Teacher Leader candidates).
4. If recommended by an instructor and/or faculty advisor, you must take GRD 727 Academic Writing.
5. You should avoid taking more than 4 program courses (12 credit hours) before being admitted to the Ed.S. program. *NOTE: Candidates in the Ed.S. Teacher Leader program should not take any program courses prior to their admission.*
6. You should meet each term with your faculty advisor or send an email. If needed, you should seek advising more frequently.
7. You should submit an Application for Degree to EB 100 about 7 months before you plan to graduate
<http://www.uab.edu/graduate/apply/acrobat/app-for-degree.pdf>
You must complete this form online, print it, SIGN it, make a copy for yourself, and submit it in person or by fax or email. This deadline and other important dates were provided on the preceding page.
Failure to meet the deadline for submitting the application for degree may delay graduation by a full semester.
8. During your final semester, you should do the following:
 - a) Ask your advisor if your Class AA program requires a comprehensive exam. If so, you should contact Nancy Timpa mtimpa@uab.edu at the beginning of your final semester and submit a comps sign-up sheet.
 - b) Submit an Application for Certification and accompanying documents to SOE Office of Student Services (EB 100):
-Follow instructions in the Class AA Certification Handbook:
http://www.uab.edu/soestudentservices/images/certification_handbooks/altmasterscertificationhandbook.pdf -
-Pay \$34 fee online to ALSDE <http://www.alsde.edu/html/OnLinePayments.asp> and print receipt.
-Request an official transcript from UAB to the OSS (EB 100). Be sure to indicate “upon posting of degree.”
 - c) Pay degree fee (\$50), either online or in person, to Student Accounting: Cashier 205-934-3570
 - d) To be eligible for a higher salary bracket, submit an online request to the UAB register for an official UAB transcript to be sent to your school system. When requesting your transcript, be sure to mark “upon posting of degree.”

Graduation and Teacher Certification

UAB’s School of Education (SOE) recommends candidates to the Graduate School for all graduate degrees. After verifying documentation, the Graduate School approves and awards the degree. This process is usually completed 2 weeks after graduation.

Requirements for being awarded an EdS degree

- Completion of the degree program (which is based on the corresponding certification checklist)
- Master’s degree GPA of at least 3.25
- Electronic assessment portfolio (*TaskStream*)
- Satisfactory completion of key assessments
- Satisfactory professional dispositions

The SOE recommends candidates to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) for teacher certification in a targeted teaching field. After verifying documentation, the ALSDE approves and issues certification. This process may take several months.

Requirements for being issued Class AA Certification

- Completion of the certification checklist (without any course substitutions)
<http://www.uab.edu/soestudentservices/general-information/checklists>
- Practicum and/or field experiences if such are required in the targeted certification area
- Fulfillment of all criteria stipulated by the ALSDE in its teacher certification codes and regulations

Important Dates

Although dates for subsequent years are often based on the dates in preceding years, changes in scheduling may occur.

Application for Admission Graduate School (205-934-8227) <https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=uab-grad>

Projected Admission	Degree-seeking Admission*	Non-degree Seeking*
Fall 2013	July 1, 2013	August 19, 2013
Spring 2014	November 1, 2013	December 20, 2013
Summer 2014	April 1, 2014	(probably first week in May 2014)

*Subject to change; updates will be posted here: <http://www.uab.edu/graduate/deadline-dates>

Application for Degree

Graduate: <http://www.uab.edu/graduate/images/acrobat/forms/app-for-degree-masters.pdf>

All SOE graduate students must submit their Applications for Degree to Room 100 by the SOE deadlines**.

Anticipated Graduation	SOE Deadline: Submit to OSS (Room 100)	Graduate School Deadline**
Fall 2013	<i>(Last year it was Aug., 1, 2012)</i>	<i>September 13, 2013</i>
Spring 2014	<i>(Last year it was Dec., 5, 2012)</i>	<i>January 24, 2014</i>
Summer 2014	<i>(Last year it was May 1, 2013)</i>	<i>(Last year it was June 7, 2013)</i>

**This deadline is for the OSS to send the SOE graduate students' Applications for Degree to the Graduate School.

Portfolio or Comprehensive Examination Sign up two weeks in advance with Nancy Timpa (EB 119), ntimpa@uab.edu

Anticipated Graduation	Comps: First Attempt (1:00-4:00 p.m.)	Comps: Second Attempt
Summer 2013	Friday, June 28, 2013	July 26, 2013
Fall 2013	<i>(Last year it was Fri., Oct. 26, 2012)</i>	<i>(Last year it was Nov. 16, 2012)</i>
Spring 2014	<i>(Last year it was Fri., Feb. 22, 2013)</i>	<i>(Last year it was March 29, 2013)</i>

Application for Certification OSS (EB 100) <http://www.uab.edu/soestudentservices/certification-process/timeline>

Anticipated Graduation	Due Date for Preferential Processing
Summer 2013	July 26, 2013
Fall 2013	<i>(Last year it was November 30, 2012)</i>
Spring 2014	<i>(Last year it was April 26, 2013)</i>

Useful Acronyms for Ed.S. Students

ALSDE	Alabama State Department of Education
C&I	Department of Curriculum & Instruction
EB	Education Building, 901 13 th Street South
Ed.S.	Educational Specialist
ESL	English as a Second Language
EXP	ALSDE's experiential form
GPA	Grade Point Average
GRE	Graduate Record Exam
HUC	Hill University Center, 1400 University Blvd
K-12	From Kindergarten to Grade 12
MAT	Miller Analogies Test
OSS	Office of Student Services, EB 100
P-12	From Pre-School to Grade 12
SOE	School of Education
TL	Teacher Leader
VI	Visual Impairments

“To-Do” List

DONE: Check off

Preparing for Admission (summary of page 6)

1.	Participate in an information session for prospective Ed.S. students: a) Contact Dr. Spezzini (spezzini@uab.edu 205-934-8357) and confirm that you would like to attend b) Attend Thursday, 5:00 to 5:45, in EB 120 (Education Building, 901 13 th Street South)	— — —
2.	Receive this Information Packet for Prospective Ed.S. Students: a) Read this Information Packet b) Complete the Inquiry Sheet on page 11 c) Give this Inquiry Sheet to a Program Director: Elementary/Special Education: Dr. Kay Emfinger (emfinger@uab.edu) Secondary/ESL/Teacher Leader: Dr. Susan Spezzini (spezzini@uab.edu)	— — — —
3.	Meet all admission requirements: a) Have a valid Alabama Class A certificate in the area required for your targeted Class AA program b) Locate an unrounded 3.25+ GPA at the bottom of your degree-issuing master’s transcript c) Find background clearance posted at https://tcert.alsde.edu/Portal/Public/Pages/SearchCerts.aspx d) Order official transcripts from all colleges attended (even if just one course) and have them sent to UAB’s Graduate School and to UAB’s School of Education (if not already on file)	— — — —
4.	Obtain a passing score on either the MAT (388+) or GRE (290+ current or 850+ former) prior to the deadline for submitting an application for admission. Detailed information about these exams is provided on page 5. <i>NOTE: An acceptable alternative is to have registered to take the MAT or GRE by the application deadline. However, although you will not yet have received your test score, you must submit your admission application to the Graduate School by the deadline.</i>	—
5.	Take ECY 600 <i>Intro to Exceptional Learners</i> if not already taken as an UG (ECY 300) or as a master’s student	—
6.	<i>For Teacher Leader:</i> Obtain EXP from your school (3 years of full time teaching) & prepare admission portfolio.	—

Applying for Admission (summary of page 7)

7.	Submit your degree-seeking application by the deadline (Nov. 1 st for spring, April 1 st for summer, July 1 st for fall), list 3 people as references, and pay \$45 preferably online.	—
8.	Periodically check the status of your application and accompanying materials by clicking on http://www.uab.edu/graduate/area-3/prospective-students/213-check-admission-status	—
9.	Follow up with the three people that you listed for providing letters of recommendation.	—
10.	Send your scanned health records as email attachments to submitmyshots@uab.edu . Be sure that these records have adequate identification as belonging to you. You must submit proof of a negative TB test and immunizations against measles/mumps/rubella and diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis. NOTE: If you had previously been a student at UAB, check to make sure that your health records are still on file.	—
11.	<i>Teacher Leader:</i> Participate in an admission interview and submit your admission portfolio.	—
12.	After receiving your admission letter from the Graduate School, do the following: a) Process or reactivate your BlazerID https://idm.blazernet.uab.edu/bid/reg b) Follow all other instructions in your admission letter	— —
13.	Contact Dr. Spezzini spezzini@uab.edu or Dr. Emfinger emfinger@uab.edu if you have any questions.	—
14.	<i>Applicants who are non-native speakers of English</i> Contact Graduate School (naramor3@uab.edu) and sign up for the oral and written language assessments.	—
15.	<i>International applicants</i> a) Obtain a score of 90 on internet-based TOEFL and 4 on the writing exam b) Meet all other criteria at the following website: http://main.uab.edu/Sites/students/32678/ .	— —

Inquiry Sheet from Prospective Ed.S. Students

I would like to obtain an Ed.S. in the following area (please circle)

Teacher Leader Elementary/Early Childhood Secondary ESL Special Education: Reading, Autism, Urban, VI

Name _____ Preferred Name/Nickname _____

Name on Teaching Certificate _____ Date of Birth _____

Home E-mail _____ Work E-mail _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Work Phone _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ zip _____

Undergraduate Degree: college _____ year _____ major _____ minor _____

Graduate Degree: college _____ year _____ major _____ minor _____

Certification: Class B (bachelor's level) _____ Class A (master's level) _____

For certification purposes, where and when did you take an introductory course to special education? _____

Current Employment as a Teacher: _____

Former Employment as a Teacher: _____

Total years of full time teaching in an accredited school: _____

Reasons for pursuing an Ed.S.: _____

Prerequisites:

Valid Class A Teacher Certification from the ALSDE in the area required by the targeted Class AA certification
Minimum GPA of 3.25 (unrounded) on degree-issuing master's transcript from a regionally-accredited college
Passing score on the MAT (388+) or GRE (290+ current or 850+ former)

For Teacher Leader: Admission portfolio following the criteria in the Teacher Leader handbook
EXP form from school district(s) showing at least 3 years of full time teaching

Non-native speakers of English: Graduate School language assessments

International students: 90 on the internet-based TOEFL and a 4 in writing

I know that, once I have a UAB email, I must check it frequently and that I must always use it in my official communication with UAB.

I know that I must read and follow the stipulations in this information packet and keep myself informed regarding any changes in order to stay on track for successfully completing the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree at UAB.

I know that I must take all of the courses on my certification checklist (no substitutions) and follow all procedures to obtain an Ed.S. from UAB with Class AA certification from the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE).

I know that, if recommended by a course instructor or the program director, I must take GRD 727 Academic Writing.

I know that I must always demonstrate a high level of professional dispositions worthy of the teaching profession.

*I realize that I must confer with my SOE faculty advisor or with the program director when I have questions concerning my program.
I realize that advisors and program directors give advice but that they are not responsible for my program or my degree.*

I am aware that policies are established by the ALSDE, that these are subject to change, and that I must abide by all such changes.

I know that I must submit an Application for Degree to the program director and/or to the SOE Office of Student Services about 7 months before my anticipated graduation and that failure to do so may delay my graduation by a full semester.

I know that I must submit an Application for Certification to the Office of Student Services during my final semester.

Prospective Student's Signature: _____ **Date** _____