

**Northern Illinois University**  
**Special Education**  
**McHenry County College Transfer Guide**  
**(2019/2020 Catalog)**

Department of Special and Early Childhood Education  
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**Transfer guides are produced as a service to MCC students. Every effort is made to maintain up-to-date and accurate information; however, this information is subject to change. Such changes take precedence over the information on this guide. Students should work with an MCC advisor and the four-year transfer school. Responsibility for complying with all applicable requirements ultimately rests with the student.**

This transfer plan is designed as an advising tool for students who plan to major in Special Education through the Department of Special and Early Childhood Education at Northern Illinois University. NIU's Special Education program includes two emphases: Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) and Vision Impairments. The LBS I cross-categorical emphasis prepares students to obtain an Illinois educator license with entitlement as a Learning Behavior Specialist I (Preschool - age 21). The emphasis in Vision Impairments prepares students to obtain educator license with entitlement in the area of Teacher of Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (Preschool - age 21). A student who completes the Bachelor of Science in Education degree with a major in Special Education qualifies for the State of Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL) with an endorsement in Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS1) – P-21.

### **Transfer Options**

- **Guaranteed Admission** - Provides MCC students with the opportunity for guaranteed admission to the University and academic advisement from both MCC academic advisors and NIU transfer personnel.
- **AA or AS Degree** - Transfer students who receive an AA or an AS degree from an Illinois public community college, have a minimum of 60 semester hours of transfer credit, have not previously attended NIU, are in good standing at the last college attended, and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher are guaranteed the following:
  - Junior status
  - Lower division NIU General Education requirements satisfied (Special Education majors require specific courses.)
- **Illinois Articulation Initiative** - Transfer students who enter NIU as first time students with the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (IAI GECC) completed are considered to have completed NIU's general education requirements. Special Education majors require specific courses.
- **For students who transfer prior to completing an AA or an AS degree or the IAI core:**
  - NIU credit can be transferred back to MCC for completion of the AA or the AS degree. Ask your MCC academic advisor about the Reverse Transfer Agreement partnership with NIU.
  - If only a portion of the IAI GECC is completed upon transfer, NIU will evaluate on a course by course basis to see how each course fits into NIU's General Education.

### **Admission Notes**

- Students must be admitted to Northern Illinois University through the Office of Admissions.
- **Application deadlines:** Fall (August 1), Spring (December 1), Summer (May 15)  
All required documents must be on file at NIU by the deadline dates. Early application is recommended.

### **Additional Information**

- Before beginning professional courses and registering for special education methods and clinical coursework, a minimum 2.5 NIU cumulative GPA is required, completion of the following course: SESE240 (EDU253 - grade of C or better), a safety tutorial prior and TB clearance prior to the first clinical experience.
- The Special Education professional sequence is 2 years, and there is one semester of prerequisites that contain courses only available at NIU. Students should plan on a minimum of 2 ½ years at NIU.

- **Grade requirement** - A grade of C or better is necessary for all coursework required for a teaching licensure degree program. This requirement includes most general education and all professional courses.
- **GPA Calculation** – NIU uses the sending institutions transcribed cumulative GPA for admission purposes.
- **Maximum hours from a community college** - Up to 66 academic semester hours from a community college and 4 semester hours of physical education activity credits may be applied toward a degree at NIU.
- **Catalog Rule** - Students may choose the NIU catalog which was in effect when they became freshmen at their original school or any later NIU catalog, providing they were enrolled during the catalog year of their choice. The catalog year must not precede enrollment at NIU by more than three years. Students may elect to satisfy all graduation requirements from a single catalog or major and minor requirements from one and general education requirements from a second. **Please note that mandatory Illinois state standards for teacher education majors takes precedence over the Catalog Rule.**
- Program requirements are subject to change by Illinois State Board of Education.

**Education Plan** -Please refer to MCC’s current academic catalog for IAI and Diversity & Multicultural Studies options and detailed AA degree requirements.

MCC AA Degree Requirements			
MCC Courses	Credits	MCC Courses	Credits
<b>Communications</b>		<b>Diversity &amp; Multicultural Studies</b>	
_____ ENG151 Composition I	3	Two 3-credit hour courses are required. Courses that fulfill this requirement may be used to satisfy requirements in Humanities/ Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Electives. See current MCC catalog or AA planning sheet for course options.	
_____ ENG152 Composition II	3		
_____ SPE151 Intro to Speech	3		
<b>Humanities &amp; Fine Arts</b>		<b>Electives</b>	
_____ IAI Humanities	3	_____ CDM110 + 205 Comp Lit + Intro to Tech in Ed (NIU offers a competency exam)	4
_____ IAI Fine Arts	3	_____ EDU253 Children with Exceptionalities	3
_____ IAI Humanities or Fine Arts	3	_____ EDU255 Diversity of Schools (EDU251 is prereq for EDU255; not an NIU requirement but gives students good exposure to the profession)	3
<b>Physical and Life Sciences</b> (7-8 credits) (7 credits required, at least 1 course w/lab)		_____ PSY250 Child Development	3
_____ IAI Physical Science	3-4	_____ Electives to satisfy 60 credit requirement for AA degree	
_____ IAI Life Science	3-4		
<b>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences</b>		<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	
_____ HIS170 US History I or HIS172 US History II	3	60 credits required for an MCC AA degree.	
_____ PLT151 US Government	3		
_____ PSY151 Intro to Psychology	3		
<b>Mathematics</b>		<b>60 required</b>	
_____ MAT201 Math Foundations for EI Ed I	3		
_____ MAT202 Math Foundations for EI Ed II	3		