TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE
2025-2026

Associate in Arts to
Bachelor of Arts in Special Education

Overview

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Arts (AA) degree at the Gateway Community and Technical College (GCTC) and leads to the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Special Education degree at Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

Applying to the Gateway2NKU Program

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at Gateway CTC, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at Gateway CTC.

Degree Requirements for GCTC

1. Completion of minimum 60 credit hours
2. Minimum cumulative GPA 2.0
3. Minimum of 15 credit hours earned at the institution awarding the degree,
4. Demonstration of digital literacy
5. College success requirement

Admission Requirements to NKU

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

Undergraduate teacher candidates can apply to the College of Education once they have successfully completed 45 semester hours of required general studies coursework, including having successfully completed EDU 104 and PSY 100 (or an equivalent). Teacher candidates must complete the admission application, submit an FBI background check and create an account with the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB).

Applicants to the College of Education must meet the minimum GPA and entrance exam requirements. Three options are available:

Option 1

· Minimum GPA 2.75 overall (NKU & transfer combined)
· Minimum Exam Scores
    o ACT Composite of 22; or
    o Combination of subject exams
        § Reading: ACT 20 or Praxis 150
        § English/Writing: ACT 18 or Praxis 158
        § Mathematics: ACT 19 or Praxis 144

Option 2
· Minimum GPA 3.00 overall (NKU & transfer combined)
· Minimum Exam Scores
    o Combination of subject exams with lower Praxis
        § Reading: ACT 20 or Praxis 145
        § English/Writing: ACT 18 or Praxis 153
        § Mathematics: ACT 19 or Praxis 139

Option 3
· Minimum GPA 3.00 in most recent 30 attempted credit hours
· Minimum Exam Scores
    o ACT Composite 22; or
    o Combination of subject exams:
    § Reading: ACT 20 or Praxis 150
    § English/Writing: ACT 18 or Praxis 158
    § Mathematics: ACT 19 or Praxis 144

For full admission, teacher candidates must register for remaining Foundations courses not yet completed (EDU 300, EDU 305, EDU 316 or equivalent). Each of these courses must be completed with a grade of 'C' or higher. They must also register for CMST 101 and/or ENG 316 or equivalent. These courses must be completed with a grade of 'B' or higher.

All application requirements must be completed by the deadlines posted, December 1st for Spring admission semester, and August 1st for Fall admission semester.

Degree Requirements for NKU
Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

In addition, students must meet the following requirements for admission into the Teacher Education Program. Courses in parentheses are GCTC course equivalencies.
- 45 earned credit hours
  - EDU 104 with a grade of C or higher
  - PSY 100 (PSY 110)
  - CMST 101 (COM 181) with a grade of B or higher
  - ENG 102 (ENG 102) with a grade of B or higher
  - EDU 300 (EDP 202) with a grade of C or higher
  - EDU 305 (EDU 201) with a grade of C or higher
  - EDU 316 with a grade of C or higher
- 2.75 or higher overall GPA (all transfer & NKU coursework combined) - OR - 3.00 or higher GPA in your last 30 attempted credit hours
- Meet the entrance exam requirement through an approved combination of passing scores on the ACT and/or Praxis I Core Academic Skills for Educators exams*

- ○ ACT Comp. 22 -OR-
  - ○ Reading (ACT: 20 -or- Praxis I: 150) and
  - ○ Eng./Writing (ACT: 18 -or- Praxis I: 158) and
  - ○ Mathematics (ACT: 19 -or- Praxis I: 144)
- Successful completion of a recent FBI criminal background check
- Completed Teacher Education Admission Application

  *Minimum Praxis score is five (5) points lower for each subject exam if your overall GPA is 3.00 or higher.

  *Passing ACT scores must be less than ten (10) years old at the date of admission to the teacher education program. Your date of admission occurs at the end of a successful admission semester, not at the beginning.

  For the fall Admission Semester, the deadline to meet the above requirements must have them on file with the COE is August 1

  For the spring Admission Semester, the deadline to meet the above requirements must have them on file with the COE is December 1

Registration for EDS 360, EDU 313 and Admission Field Experience (EDU 303, 307, 309, 311 or 334) may only be completed after all above requirements are met. Seats in the admission courses are limited. Therefore, to ensure the best course selection get your requirements completed early! Work with your COE advisor to ensure proper enrollment

General Transfer Information
Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from GCTC.

KCTCS Scholars Award: Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU, and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of annual scholarships (fall and spring only). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

Tuition and scholarship information specific to transfer students can be viewed on the NKU Adult & Transfer Center website.

GCTC AA TO NKU BA IN SPECIAL EDUCATION CHECKLIST

Gateway Community and Technical College

Category 1: GCTC General Education Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I (WC)	3	ENG 101	
ENG 102	Writing II (WC)	3	ENG 102	
COM 181	Basic Public Speaking (OC)	3	CMST 101	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities – Heritage (AH) course	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities – Humanities (AH)	3	TBD XXX	
PSY 110	General Psychology (SB)	3	PSY 100	
Taken at NKU	Education in a Multicultural Society (SB)	3	EDU 316	
TBS XXX	Social & Behavioral (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
Taken at NKU	Integrative Science (SL)	4	SCI 110	
MAT 146 or MAT 150	Contemporary College Math (QR) or College Algebra (QR)	3	MAT 115 (MAT 102 or MAT 103) + MAT 100T	
MAT 206	Mathematics for Elementary and Middle School Teachers II (QR)	3	MAT 141	
	Subtotal General Education Courses	**34**		

TBS XXX means to be selected by GCTC student.
TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

For Social and Behavioral Sciences courses, two disciplines must be represented and different from those in the Arts and Humanities category.

MAT 146 or MAT 150 is a prerequisite for MAT 205 and MAT 206 at Gateway. A grade of A or B in MAT 150 equates to MAT 103 + MAT 100T at NKU. A grade of C or D in MAT 150 equates to MAT 102 + MAT 100T.

Category 2: GCTC AS Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ASL 103	American Sign Language I (FL)	3	ASL 110	
ASL 104	American Sign Language II (FL)	3	ASL 111	
	Subtotal AS Requirement Courses	**6**		

Category 3: GCTC Electives

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
FYE 105 or FYE 110	Achieving Academic Success or First Year Experience and Applications	3	UNV 100T	
EDP 202	Human Development and Learning	3	EDU 300	
EDU 204	Technology in the Classroom	3	EDU 313	

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
EDU 201	Introduction to American Education	3	EDU 305	
EDU 240 or EDU 270	Elementary and Middle School Literature or Elementary School Literature	3	ENG 386	
MAT 205	Mathematics for Elementary and Middle School Teachers I	3	MAT 140	
EDP 203	Teaching Exceptional Learners in Regular Classrooms	3	STA 113	
	Subtotal Elective Courses	**21**		
	Total Associate Degree Hours	**61**		

Northern Kentucky University

Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for the BA in Special Education

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
ASL 110	Beginning American Sign Language I	3	ASL 101U or SED 101	x
CMST 101	Public Speaking	3	COM 181	x
EDS 322	Instructional Planning for Inclusive Elementary Classrooms	3		
EDS 323	Instructional Planning for Inclusive Middle Level Classrooms	3		
EDS 324	Instructional Planning for Inclusive Secondary Classrooms	3		
EDS 326	Admissions Field Experience Special Education	2		
EDS 362	Applied Behavior Analysis for Students with Disabilities	3		
EDS 364	Characteristics of Learning Disabilities	3		
EDS 365	Characteristics of Emotional/Behavioral Disorder	3		
EDS 464	Assessment Learning and Behavior Disorders	3		
EDS 472	Special Education Methods and Materials	3		
EDS 473	Special Education Field Experience	2		
EDS 490	Clinical Field Experience in Special Education	12		
EDU 104	Orientation: Education Profession/Program	1		
EDU 107	Foundational Math for Elementary and Middle Grades	1		
EDU 300	Human Growth and Development	3	EDP 202	x
EDU 302	Teaching of Reading	3		
EDU 305	Introduction to Education	2	EDU 201	x
EDU 310	Teaching Language Arts in Early Grades	3		
EDU 313	Instructional Technology	3	EDU 204	x
EDU 316	Education in a Multicultural Society	3	Taken at NKU	x
EDU 388	Elementary Field Experience I	2		
ENG 102	Writing and Research	3	ENG 102	x

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
ENG 386	Children's Literature	3	EDU 240 or EDU 270	x
MAT 140	Arithmetic Structures for Elementary Teachers	3	MAT 205	x
MAT 141	Geometry I for K-8 Teachers	3	MAT 206	x
PSY 100	Introduction to Psychology	3	PSY 110	x
SCI 110	Integrative Science	4	Taken at NKU	x
STA 113	Probability and Statistics with Elementary Education Applications	3	Taken at NKU	x
Select 12 credits: ASL 111 ASL 201 ASL 202 ASL 326 ASL 327 ASL 400 COU 575 EDS 452 EDS 453 EDS 551 EDU 517 EDU 522 EDU 523 EDU 594	Select Guided Electives for 12 credit hours. Courses are 3 credits unless indicated otherwise. Beginning American Sign Language II American Sign Language III American Sign Language IV Deaf Culture and Community Deaf History in America Aspects of Deaf Life Mindfulness and Contemplative Practices Education, Advocacy and Dis/Ability (1 credit) Mentoring Field Experience (2 credits) Assistive Technology in the Classroom Teaching of Phonics in Elementary/Middle The Mindful Helping Professional (1-4 credits) The Mindful Leader Topics: Education (1-3 credits)	12	ASL 104 ASL 203 ASL 204	x Need 9 more credits
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU	**62**		
	Subtotal Credit Hours at GCTC	**61**		
	Total Major Credit Hours	**104**		
	Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours	**123**		

Updated January 2026