

College of Education News

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College of Education, Georgia Southern University

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Georgia Southern College of Education master's degrees ranked top 25 in nation

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Georgia Southern University's online special education and educational leadership degrees in the College of Education (COE) have been recognized in rankings released by [SR Education Group](#), which has published national rankings of online colleges since 2009 and awarded more than \$200,000 in scholarships since 2010, for academic strength and affordability.

The COE programs were ranked No. 7 in the 2018 Best Online Schools Offering a Master's in Educational Leadership list and No. 13 in the 2018 Best Online Schools Offering a Master's in Special Education list.

These rankings include the nation's top 25 higher education institutions offering the best balance of cost and academic strength for a master's degree in each content area. Methodology used for this ranking includes degree-specific tuition rates that are researched by SR Education Group, as well as data from the National Center for Education Statistics.

The Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Leadership offered by Georgia Southern prepares candidates for Tier I initial leadership positions that include pre-K through 12, school-level assistant principal or equivalent in accordance with the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC). The 36-hour, fully online degree program includes 250 hours of clinical practice that are job-embedded and performance-based throughout the program.

"Our newly redesigned master's in educational leadership is a great opportunity for those looking to transition into leadership roles within their school systems," said Juli Sergi McBrayer, Ed.D., coordinator for the M.Ed. Education Leadership program. "Our program meets the newly announced revisions to the GaPSC standards and assists candidates in growing professionally through collaboration with our expert faculty and relevant, applicable curriculum."

The educational leadership master's degree was also ranked No. 25 in the 2018 Most Affordable Online Colleges for a Master's in Educational Leadership list.

In the area of special education, the University's Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT), which provides initial certification for special education teachers grades pre-K-12, and M.Ed., which provides advanced preparation for special education teachers, both garnered No. 13 rankings.

"Special education teachers are in high demand right now not only in the state of Georgia but in the nation," said Shelley Woodward, M.Ed., MAT Special Education program coordinator. "Both our MAT and M.Ed. degree programs in special education offer an online option to allow current teachers to advance their skill sets in the classroom or for those wanting to enter the special education classroom to earn certification."

Special education programs at Georgia Southern are based on the concept of developmentally appropriate practices and the value of diverse, intensive field experiences with varied populations. All programs are approved by the GaPSC.

For more information on graduate programs at Georgia Southern, visit COE.GeorgiaSouthern.edu/degrees.

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