

# Transition Specialist

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY  
*Illinois' first public university*  
 Gladly we learn and teach

NOW RECRUITING FOR A NEW COHORT STARTING SUMMER 2019 ( HYBRID MODEL)

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The ISU Transition Specialist Graduate Certificate Program is designed to prepare district level or building level transition specialists, as well as to prepare all secondary special educators to effectively support students' transitions to quality adult lives. The comprehensive and in-depth curriculum addresses transition programming needs for students across disability categories.

### PROGRAM MODEL

The program includes four graduate-level courses. Completion of the course sequence leads to a **graduate certificate** from Illinois State University and can lead to a **Learning Behavior Specialist 2: Transition Specialist licensure** from the Illinois State Board of Education for eligible individuals who pass the state certification test.

COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<b>SED 453:</b> Interagency Collaboration and Postsecondary Systems (Summer 2019)	Strategies for effective transition planning and collaboration between community services and schools to achieve post-secondary outcomes; understanding of transition models
<b>SED 457:</b> Facilitating Social, Leisure, & Independent Living Outcomes (Fall 2019)	Programs and practices that promote successful community, social, leisure, and independent living outcomes for youth with disabilities
<b>SED 455:</b> Facilitating Employment Outcomes (Spring 2020)	Programs and practices that promote successful employment and postsecondary education and training outcomes for youth with disabilities
<b>SED 451:</b> Facilitating Student-Directed Transition Planning (Summer 2020)	Strategies related to self-determination, self-management, and student-directed activities and application to transition assessment and planning for youth with disabilities

Courses will be offered in a **hybrid model**. Two Saturday campus sessions per course will allow cohort members to collaborate and support implementation of new practices. All other coursework is online. Critical issues such as both rural and urban program considerations; school-to-prison pipeline; unique needs of students with mental health concerns, in juvenile justice systems, or in foster care systems; and additional issues identified by cohort members will be incorporated throughout coursework.

### 2019 PROGRAM ADMISSIONS TIME LINE

March 8	April 15	May 1	June 3
Review of complete applications begins.	Applicants will be notified of admissions decisions.	Admitted students must be registered for summer and fall semesters.	Summer course, SED 453, begins.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Submit the following application materials through the Illinois State University Office of Admissions online application system, available at [Grad.IllinoisState.edu/Admission](http://Grad.IllinoisState.edu/Admission):

- An application letter that includes the following information:
  - A description of your experience working with middle and/or high school students with IEPs;
  - An assessment of your strengths and areas for improvement related to providing secondary transition services; and
  - At least three specific learning goals you plan to accomplish during the program
- A current resume
- A letter documenting a minimum of one year of successful teaching experience
- An official transcript from each higher education institution you have attended
- A copy of your current teaching certificates
- Names and email addresses for three references

**Tentative** Saturday Sessions for first two courses

June 22, July 13, September 14, November 16

### PROGRAM FACULTY

**Debbie Shelden**, PhD, Associate Professor & Program Coordinator  
**Kara Hirano**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
**LaTonya Harris**, MS, Doctoral Student and Graduate Assistant

### For more information

If you have questions about the program, admission requirements, or application procedures, please email Debbie Shelden at [dsheld@ilstu.edu](mailto:dsheld@ilstu.edu).