

# Teacher Certification Program for the Blind and Visually Impaired

To address the critical shortage area of Teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired, the NH Department of Education and Granite State College collaboratively developed this program fully approved by the Department of Education.

## How is the GSC experience different?

- ◆ An opportunity for certified special educators to receive an add on NH certification while working in their present educational position.
- ◆ On-line classes and hybrid classes are offered by experienced certified Teachers of the Visually Impaired.
- ◆ Designed for 21st Century Educators for Visually Impaired Students.
- ◆ GSC provides an in-depth focus on the critical issues that are transforming the landscape of education—innovation, critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration.



## What does the program for Teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired look like?

- ◆ Eight courses focusing on the unique needs of students with visual impairments.
- ◆ Hybrid courses offer hands-on learning through vision simulators which replicate various visual disabilities.
- ◆ Best practices in the field: Anatomy and Physiology, Multiple Disabilities and Visual Impairments, Braille for reading and math, Expanded Core Curriculum, Assessment and Strategies, etc.

## Clinical Hours

- ◆ Teacher Candidates are required to log clinical hours
- ◆ Logged hours must be in collaboration with a certified teacher of BVI
- ◆ Logged hours must include instruction and assessment of students
- ◆ It is expected that as part of the journey to becoming certified, a candidate will engage in observation and reflection of pedagogy, of which a portion may be considered

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<b>Required Courses</b>				
EDU 700—Intro. To Field Experience and Program Requirements	EDU 790 Foundations of Education of Students with Blindness and Visual Impairment	EDU 791 Anatomy & Physiology of the Eye	EDU 792—Braille I: Reading, Writing, and Technology	
EDU 793—Math Access: Nemeth Code, Abacus & Tactile	EDU 794—Expanded Core Curriculum	EDU 795—Assessment and Instructional Strategies for Teaching Students with BVI	EDU 796—Teaching Students with Visual Impairments and Additional Disabilities	EDU 797—Culminating Experience/Itinerant Teaching