



University  
of Idaho

**IMPACT:  
IDAHO'S MODEL  
PARAEDUCATORS  
ADVANCING TO  
CERTIFICATION**

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# IMPACT OVERVIEW

- IMPACT is a pathway for paraeducators to earn their Exceptional Children (SpEd) teaching endorsement.
- IMPACT is funded by the U.S. Department of Education (OSEP 84.325K)
- The grant funding covers 59 undergraduate credits hours (per student) and all scholar expenses related to program completion.
- IMPACT supports 2 cohorts of 10 scholars each, with Cohort 1 beginning in Summer 2024 and Cohort 2 beginning in Summer 2026.

Individuals who are currently serving as paraeducators in Idaho

Individuals who have already earned some college or university credits

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Individuals who can commit to completing coursework, as presented in the Program of Study

Individuals who can commit to teaching at least 4 years after program completion



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**IMPACT is especially interested in providing opportunities for individuals who are underrepresented in the field, including paraeducators with disabilities, those from racially and ethnically diverse populations, and first-generation with low socio-economic status; all of whom who represent the fabric of diversity in Idaho.**

# IMPACT COURSEWORK



## I ONLINE

- Scholars complete existing U of I courses, all of which are offered to students at a distance (online format). IMPACT Scholars also enroll in a one-credit IMPACT seminar course per semester.

## I MENTOR-SUPPORTED COURSES

- Each semester, IMPACT scholars will complete a course with the guidance of a local mentor from their school district. U of I personnel will support these processes and grade coursework. Mentors are provided a stipend for their support.

## I INTENSIVE SUMMER INSTITUTE

- IMPACT Scholars will meet face-to-face as a cohort at the U of I campus in Moscow to complete required course activities. All expenses (travel, room and board) will be provided at no cost to IMPACT Scholars. Funding is also available to support family members who want to attend.
  - 2024: June 17 – June 23 (2025 Dates TBD)

## I SPECIAL EDUCATION INTERNSHIP (STUDENT TEACHING)

- IMPACT Scholars will have the opportunity to complete their student teaching in their current school.

# PROGRAM OF STUDY



Year 1			
Summer 2024 (9 Credits)			
EDSP 300	Educating for Exceptionalities	ISI*	3 Credits
EDSP 325	Supporting Student Behaviors in the Classroom	ISI*	3 Credits
EDSP 350	Language and Communication Development and Disorders	Online	3 Credits
Fall 2024 (9 Credits)			
EDCI 301	Learning, Development, and Assessment	Mentor-Supported	3 Credits
MTHE 235	Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I	Online	3 Credits
EDSP 430	Assistive Technology & UDL for PreK-12	Online	2 Credits
EDSP 3xx	IMPACT Seminar	Online	1 Credit
Spring 2025 (10 Credits)			
EDSP 423	Collaboration	Mentor-Supported	3 Credits
EDCI 302	Teaching Culturally Diverse Learners	Online	3 Credits
MTHE 236	Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II	Online	3 Credits
EDSP 3xx	IMPACT Seminar	Online	1 Credit
Year 2			
Summer 2025 (11 Credits)			
EDSP 426	Developing Instructional Programs	ISI*	3 Credits
EDSP 448	Special Education Curriculum	ISI*	3 Credits
EDCI 410	Technology, Teaching and Learning	Online	2 Credits
EDCI 320	Teaching Reading and Literacy	Online	3 Credits
Fall 2025 (7 Credits)			
EDSP 425	Evaluation of Children and Youth	Mentor-Supported	3 Credits
EDCI 463	Literacy Methods for Content Learning	Online	3 Credits
EDSP 3xx	IMPACT Seminar	Online	1 Credit
Spring 2026 (13 Credits)			
EDSP 401	Internship Seminar	Online	1 Credit
EDSP 484	Special Education Internship	Classroom	12 Credits

Note: \* = Intensive Summer Institute (ISI)



# SERVICE REQUIREMENT

IMPACT includes a required service obligation for any student who receives funding.

- Scholars who complete the program will be required to complete 2 years of service (as a special educator) for each year of program funding (4 total years)
- Scholars will be required to register with the US Department of Education
- *PLEASE BE ADVISED: Students who do not complete the program or service obligation will be required to payback any funding they received (U.S. Government requirement)*

# ADMISSION PACKET REQUIREMENTS



## I CANDIDATE STATEMENT

- Candidates must develop a written statement describing their interest in applying IMPACT. This could include information about personal background, rationale for interest in the program, career goals, experience working with students with diverse backgrounds, and personal strengths. This statement should be no longer than 500 words

## I RESUME

- Include a current resume that shows education and employment history.

## I SUPERVISOR REFERENCES

- Applicants must include the name, title, phone number, and email address of two supervisors at their current schools (e.g., principal, assistant principal, teacher, special education director). These individuals will be contacted by IMPACT staff and asked for information to support your candidacy.

## I UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

- For this initial IMPACT application, applicants will be required to submit unofficial transcripts with any college/university courses they have taken. For students accepted into IMPACT, the U of I will require official transcripts as part of the University application.

# COHORT 1 ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

- I February 16: IMPACT admission packets are due
- I March 10: Applicants will be notified via email (Accept/Waitlist/Deny)
- I March 31: Accepted students will need to complete the application packet for the University of Idaho
  - This will include official transcripts
  - Accepted applicants will also complete the FAFSA application (Financial Aid)
- I April (Date TBD): IMPACT Introductory Meeting (on Zoom)
- I May 13: Summer Session Begins
- I June 17 – 23: Intensive Summer Institute (Moscow, ID)



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# IMPACT WEBSITE

<https://sitecore.uidaho.edu/ed/outreach-research/Impact>



## QUESTIONS?

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