



AUGUSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Education
Department of Clinical & Professional
Studies



Comprehensive Program Report
B.S.Ed. Special Education
Intellectual Disabilities

**Comprehensive Program Review
Bachelor of Education
In
Intellectual Disabilities**

The Bachelor of Education in Intellectual Disabilities is no longer a program offered at Augusta State University. The last student declaring that major graduated in fall of 2002. In 1999, a survey of area special education directors indicated that the B.S.E. in Intellectual Disabilities was no longer a viable or desirable major. With few exceptions, most school districts were seeking graduates who could be certified in interrelated special education. The movement toward inclusive special education, initiated by the reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 1997, produced a need for more teachers who are trained to teach students with learning, emotional/behavioral, and intellectual disabilities.

A degree in Intellectual Disabilities is very limiting because only a small number of students can be taught by teachers certified in that area of specialization. In contrast, the B.S.Ed. in Interrelated Special Education allows school administrators the flexibility of placing teachers in a variety of settings to serve students with mild disabilities. The latter degree was instituted at Augusta State in 1999, and no students were admitted to the program in Intellectual Disabilities from that point on. The students graduating from Augusta State with degrees in Interrelated Special Education are immediately hired.

As there are no students pursuing the B.S.Ed. in Intellectual Disabilities and because the degree is no longer offered, the Department faculty voted unanimously to officially remove the degree from the catalog. This action was approved at the following levels: College of Education faculty, College of Education Curriculum Committee, Teacher Education Committee, Academic Policies Committee, and Augusta State University faculty.