

Jamaica Program Admission Requirements

Western Carolina University offers two fully accredited graduate programs in Jamaica: The Master of Arts in Education in Educational Supervision (EDSU) and the Master of Arts Education in Special Education-Mild/Moderate Disabilities (SPED).

WCU is committed to serving the Jamaican educational system with these current and relevant degree programs. The EDSU program focuses on school leadership and improvement in the Jamaican educational context and the SPED program focuses on inclusive education for students with learning problems in the traditional classroom environment.

Students considering applying for these programs should thoroughly review the student handbook for in-depth information about the requirements for completion of the program and other policies.

Graduate Program Admission

The experience of the MAEd faculty is that Jamaica has many educators who are "at promise," and these are the graduate students who are sought to enroll in the MAEd program. The following procedures have been established to identify those Jamaican educators most capable of graduate study in Educational Supervision or Special Education-Mild/Moderate Disabilities.

1. Applicants must hold the bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited university. Applicants holding a bachelor's degree not from a UCI accredited university or accredited university in the US, must have their transcript evaluated by the [World Education Services](#) (WES).
2. Applicants must submit an application materials online through WCU's Graduate School. The application must include official transcripts of all undergraduate work.
3. Applicants must receive a satisfactory score on the admission exam designed for their program of choice.

[Graduate School Application Portal](#)

Common Information for Both Programs

Students enter and proceed through the program in cohorts. The program is usually completed in two years. Jamaican students often excel in their coursework. WCU faculty members regularly comment on the Jamaican students' high level of commitment, conscientiousness, thoroughness, and strong work ethic. Additionally, faculty have high expectations for student work. Course Evaluations and Program Evaluations indicate a high level of satisfaction by students and alumni.

Classes meet three hours for 10 days for a total of 30 contact hours. Students will have a pre-course assignment and/or a post course assignment to complete before and after the professor teaches the course. This component is based on the syllabus of the individual courses. Courses are taught in Jamaica in January, March, May, June, and October. A tentative schedule for the entire program is posted on the website prior to the start of a new cohort. Students are advised

to review that schedule often as the schedule may change since it covers a two year period. Courses are taught by regular, full-time, tenure-track WCU faculty or regular adjunct faculty members to the university. While these programs are site-based, distance programs that taught in-person in Jamaica, situations may necessitate teaching a course in a fully online format.

The student's degree will be conferred once their cohort has completed all of the required courses. Transcripts and diplomas are sent to the student after printed diplomas are received. The WCU chancellor or designee and other university officials conduct commencement ceremonies in Jamaica in order to allow families to celebrate this milestone with the graduate.