

**Accreditation:**

Silver Lake College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. All Silver Lake College teacher education programs are accredited by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Summer 2012

Sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity



**Silver Lake College**

2406 SOUTH ALVERNO ROAD, MANITOWOC, WI 54220-9319

**AN INNOVATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

Licensure Program for  
Training New Teachers of the  
Blind & Visually Impaired

***New Cycle of Courses  
Beginning Summer 2012***

A collaborative project with



Wisconsin Department  
of Public Instruction

AND

Wisconsin Center for the  
Blind and Visually  
Impaired



## Licensure Program

Silver Lake College and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in collaboration with the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired are providing Wisconsin teachers an opportunity to obtain licensure in the area of visual impairment within the state. The program meets the course requirements for licensure.

The program for licensed special education teachers consists of seven (7) graduate courses plus student teaching & field experience (23 credits). Prerequisite courses are required for non special education licensed teachers. The VI coursework extends over two years plus an additional summer. The sequence of courses is:

SED	COURSE	SEMESTER	CREDITS
<b>Year One</b>			
513	Visual Impairment	Summer 2012	4
514	Braille	Fall 2012	3
516	Movement Development and O&M	Spring 2013	3
<b>Year Two</b>			
517	Reading and Low Vision	Summer 2013	3
519	Braille Technology	Summer 2013	1
515	Visual Impairment and Communication	Fall 2013	2
518	Education and Assessment VI	Spring 2014	3
550	Field Experiences VI	Any term with permission of VI coordinator	2
668	Student Teaching (Performance Evaluation) -- Requires permission of VI coordinator:	Concurrent with SED 518 if all requirements are met.	2

### For additional information or questions contact:

Sister Mary Karen Oudeans, Special Education Program  
Silver Lake College

(920) 686-6157 or [marykaren.oudeans@sl.edu](mailto:marykaren.oudeans@sl.edu)

<https://www.sl.edu/academics/academic-departments/special-education-2/special-education-licensure/special-education-licensure-visual-impairment/>

## Questions and Answers

### 1. How and where will the courses be delivered?

Each semester-long course will have a **minimum** of three onsite meetings, usually three weekends, with the exception of SED 519 which will require a week of attendance during summer 2013. In addition to onsite meetings, home study and online submission of assignments are required. The courses need to be completed in sequence. If anyone drops out of the sequence, they will need to wait until the next cohort to continue the licensure course sequence from where they discontinued. Occasionally students may be required to attend a specific statewide institute, event, or conference that relates to coursework.

The locations for each course will vary depending on course needs and the location of cohort members.

### 2. What prerequisites are required?

- special education license, or
- general education license, and willingness to acquire core special education coursework concurrently, or
- 4-year college degree, with willingness to acquire pre-requisite teacher education program first license requirements and the core special education coursework prior to beginning the VI course sequence.
- Each applicant will be individually evaluated. For more information go to: <https://www.sl.edu/academics/academic-departments/special-education-2/special-education-licensure/special-education-licensure-visual-impairment/>

### 3. What is the registration procedure?

Complete online application to SLC <https://www.sl.edu/welcome-to-admissions/apply-online/> ) for VI licensure. Contact Sister Mary Karen Oudeans at 920-686-6157 or [marykaren.oudeans@sl.edu](mailto:marykaren.oudeans@sl.edu) with questions.

### 4. How long will it take to complete the VI licensure program?

For Persons having a special education license, it will take a minimum of two years and perhaps an additional summer. For persons without a special education license, time will vary. Students can register for SED 668 (Student Teaching) only when all coursework and teacher education requirements are met. Teacher of Visual Impairment (TVI) license requires passing all components of the VI Braille Test.

### How much will it cost?

The 2012-2014 tuition for VI courses is 50% of the Teacher Licensure tuition. Pre-requisite courses are charged at SLC tuition costs. A special state loan program is available that does not have to be paid back if the borrower meets certain future work commitments. Loans range from \$250-\$10,000 annually, up to \$40,000 maximum. To be eligible, you must be a WI resident, be accepted for Admission and enrolled in the SLC Visual Impaired Licensure Program, and annually file a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). For Teacher of the Visually Impaired Loan information from the State, go to <http://heab.wi.gov/programs.html#loans>. For loan information from the Office of Financial Aid, go to [www.sl.edu](http://www.sl.edu), at bottom right "Quick Links" dropdown click "Financial Aid, then in left margin click "Teacher Licensure", and then click on loans.

### 5. Can I earn a master's degree?

Yes. A Master of Arts in Special Education degree can be earned from Silver Lake College through acceptance into the Masters of Arts in Special Education program and additional coursework.